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132D CRUISE-FITTED B-52 ARRIVES AT SAWYER AFB

LD070942 Moscow TASS in English 0818 GMT 7 Jan 87

["USA Fitting Out B-52 With Cruise Missiles" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Washington January 7 TASS -- The 132nd U.S. strategic bomber B-52 fitted out with cruise missiles arrived at the Sawyer Air Base (Michigan State) on December 22, a spokesman for the Pentagon said on Tuesday here. In his words, another such aircraft will possibly be stationed there later this month.

Thus, the Reagan administration is pointedly continuing its dangerous policy of undermining the SALT-2 treaty and uncontrolled build-up of the nuclear arsenals. The UPI agency recalled that it was late in November last year that official Washington "began intentionally violating" the treaty signed in 1979, when the 131st B-52 bomber was fitted out with cruise missiles. The AP agency points out in its turn that this decision has aroused criticism among a number of U.S. congressmen.

BOGACHEV VIEWS U.S. 'ABSURD ARGUMENTS' FOR SDI

LD061735 Moscow TASS in English 1709 GMT 6 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 6 TASS -- Military News Analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

At a time when American scientists, including those working under Pentagon contracts, are citing ever more convincing evidence of the technical untenability of Reagan's "Star Wars" program, of its dangerous destabilising nature, official representatives of the United States Administration are resorting to even more fantastic and absurd arguments in defence of their "Strategic Defense Initiative".

Only recently President Ronald Reagan stated that those Americans who protest against the plans of militarising outer space are actually ... voting for tax increases. When speaking in unemployment-stricken Colorado the President promised that SDI will raise living standards in America and in the whole world.

Yesterday Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger surprised journalists by stating that the quicker work to implement SDI is carried out the sooner will it be able to utilise its benefits.

President Reagan's statements on SDI, of course if they are to be taken at face value, can create the impression that by deploying American strike weapon systems in near-terrestrial space Washington supposedly is scrupulously fulfilling its pledge to prevent a militarisation of outer space made at the summit meeting in Geneva.

By its scope the campaign to deceive the American tax payers about the true designation of the "Star Wars" program, its efficiency and cost has left far behind both the notorious "Watergate" and the present big scandal over American arms deliveries to Iran.

The benefits of SDI, mentioned by Casper Weinberger, are already now being used by the sharks of the American military-industrial complex which are making huge sums on preparations for war in outer space. For the rest of mankind the American "Star Wars" program spells the danger of a global catastrophe.

Already now the peoples of the world are feeling the consequences of Washington's reckless plans of militarising outer space. It is the present American Administration's adherence to the "Star Wars" plans that frustrated the accords reached in Reykjavik on the reduction of strategic arms, the total elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe and a radical reduction of their number on a global scale.

It is the needs of SDI that determine Washington's negative attitude to the Soviet proposals on a general and complex ban on nuclear weapon tests.

The "Star Wars" are placing in jeopardy the entire process of arms limitation and reduction.

Mankind has the right to expect that common sense will at long last prevail in Washington. For in the long run this program is just as dangerous to those who are promoting it.

GENERAL LEBEDEV CITED ON SDI, ABM TREATY

LD050940 Moscow TASS in English 0825 GMT 5 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 5 TASS -- "By their characteristics space weapons created within the SDI framework cannot but be classed as offensive ones", General Yuriy Lebedev wrote in PRAVDA today. "They can be used for a surprise destruction of key space vehicles of the opposite side (warning, communication and other satellites), for taking it unawares, thus depriving it of a possibility to retaliate a nuclear aggression. Some weapons whose range of action is 4,000-5,000 km can destroy various ground facilities in several seconds".

"Another thing is obvious too. The control over the complex of space armaments in the U.S. anti-ballistic missile system will be taken over by computers. Thus, the very existence of humanity will become a hostage of machines. Even the most perfect automatic systems are not immune to failures, malfunctioning and just errors. In other words, in case of the realization of the SDI the world military-strategic relations will depend on most complicated space robots hanging over the earth".

"U.S. leaders deceive themselves when they hope that with the help of 'Star Wars', of the technological spurt they can achieve a breakthrough in the military sphere and impose their will on others, including the Soviet Union. Yet, Washington's attempts are doomed to failure. The USSR has at its disposal all that it needs for dashing these adventuristic hopes. And they are sure to be dashed".

"However, in the new year, while space is nuclear-free so far, there remains a prospect of achieving a political settlement of the problem. The Soviet Union reaffirms that the proposals put forward by it in Reykjavik remain on the negotiating table, that we are ready for reaching mutually acceptable agreements, including on the consolidation of the regime of the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty and on the non-admittance of weapons to outer space. This would pave the way for the scrapping of nuclear weapons. In 1987 this country will continue to work for it with redoubled energy".

CHINESE INFANTRY INCURSIONS INTO SRV 'REPULSED'

LD070937 Moscow TASS in English 0820 GMT 7 Jan 87

["Clashes on the Border" -- TASS headline"]

[Text] Hanoi January 7 TASS -- The VIA agency [as received] reports that in the morning of January 5 a Chinese infantry division supported by artillery and mortar fire made armed incursions at several sections of the Vietnamese territory in the Visuyen District (Ha Tuyen Province).

Vietnamese border guards repulsed the attacks, put out of action about 500 Chinese and captured a considerable quantity of weapons, the agency reports.

OVCHINNIKOV VIEWS CURRENT INTERNATIONAL ISSUES

PM061445 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Jan 87 First Edition p 4

[Vsevolod Ovchinnikov International Review]

[Text] The Reykjavik Achievements [subhead]

We have entered the year of the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution, the 70th anniversary of Lenin's Decree on Peace. At the present crucial historical stage the role of the first socialist country as the advocate and defender of general human interests and values stands out particularly visibly.

When the world was faced with the choice between mankind's destruction of nuclear weapons or mankind's destruction by nuclear weapons, it was the motherland of the October Revolution which showed the way to resolve this dilemma. On 15 January last year the Soviet program for freeing the world from nuclear weapons before the end of this century was announced. It was that concrete plan of action which predetermined the irresistible force of the Soviet proposals in Reykjavik. Those proposals, as the New Year address to the Soviet people said, enabled mankind to look beyond the horizon and see the outlines of a nuclear-free world.

Of course, turning the prospect into a reality will not be easy. You can hardly predict how much actual progress will be made toward that goal this year. But one thing is in no doubt: Moscow would like to overcome the state of fruitlessness and inertia existing in the Soviet-U.S. talks and give them real dynamism. As M.S. Gorbachev stated replying to a U.S. journalist recently, that is what we worked for in Reykjavik and we shall work even more energetically for it in 1987.

The New Year statement of the "Delhi Six" says that the USSR and U.S. leaders were very close to agreements which could pave the way to the elimination of all nuclear armaments. It is gratifying that the proposals put forward in the Icelandic capital remain in force. For that very reason, the "Six" believe, 1987 offers the USSR and the United States an opportunity to reach agreement on a number of important measures in the disarmament sphere including considerable reductions in the nuclear arsenals.

In the words of the Indian, Argentine, Mexican, Greek, Tanzanian, and Swedish leaders, their appeals for a rapid ending of nuclear tests and the prevention of the arms race in space have now acquired even greater topicality. [paragraph continues]

The statement's authors again urged the United States to join in the Soviet moratorium. The "Delhi Six" urged Washington and Moscow to resume all-embracing talks as quickly as possible so as to achieve their declared aim: to prevent the arms race in space, to end it on earth, and ultimately to eliminate nuclear weapons everywhere.

On New Year's Eve, U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger was asked how he saw the effect of the "Star Wars" program on the problem of arms control in the light of the Reykjavik meeting.

"In my opinion, nothing happened in Reykjavik," the Pentagon chief stated bluntly. "The SDI program is taking its own course and should in no way be linked with arms reduction. It is important to implement the strategic defense program come what may and will remain one of the President's paramount tasks come what may..."

Thus the stumbling block is to remain. Consequently, this is the range of positions: There is the voice of reason resounding from Moscow; the authoritative opinion of the "Delhi Six"; and the obdurate obstinacy of Washington. This contrast shows that the struggle for a nuclear-free world and mankind's survival can and must be waged on the basis of the achievements in Reykjavik. But it will not be easy.

Clouds Gathering [subhead]

Alarming news is coming from Central America. Nicaragua's patriots had to greet the New Year with their weapons at the ready. There was good reason for that. Remembering how the chauvinist passions aroused by the invasion of Grenada were used to divert the U.S. public's attention from the senseless deaths of 253 marines in Lebanon, many people are reasonably asking whether the White House will not resort to another adventure of some kind to overshadow the "Irangate" scandal. Such an eventuality cannot be ruled out. If that is so, the "neoglobalists'" target could be Nicaragua.

According to THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, the scandal connected with the sale of weapons to Iran and the transfer to the "contras" of the money thus obtained has made it difficult for the Reagan administration to support the Nicaraguan counterrevolution. Washington is demanding that the "contras" leave their bases in Honduras and move into Nicaragua. U.S. officials, the newspaper continues, are proceeding from the dubious assumption that the new weapons and military training provided by the recently approved $100-million aid program will enable the "contras" to switch to the offensive for the first time for many years. As soon as they gain victories and capture territory it will be easier to persuade the Congress to lift the restrictions on support for the anticommunist forces in Nicaragua...

A far from original scenario. Similar arguments once accelerated the U.S. slide into the quagmire of the Vietnam war. But Southeast Asia is much further away than Central America. Hence the new element: the training of mercenaries at Pentagon bases in the United States or nearby. When Honduras, El Salvador, and Costa Rica refused to allow their territory to be used for the "contras'" military training by U.S. instructors, training camps had to be found for that purpose on U.S. territory. To minimize public protests the most remote sites are being chosen for the Somocista camps or they are set up outside the United States, for instance in Puerto Rico and Panama. Recently there was a report that the Pentagon wants to create a training center for the "contras" in the Dominican Republic near the border with Haiti.

More and more alarming facts are filtering into the press about the preparation of direct U.S. military intervention against Nicaragua. [paragraph continues]

The Pentagon has announced the transfer of special troops headquarters from Fort Gordon, Georgia, to Fort Clayton in the Panama Canal zone. After the rear support subunits 3,000 officers and men of the 193d infantry brigade, which landed on Grenada, will be transferred there. Some 5,000 servicemen of the 82d airborne division, which also took part in the Grenada adventure, are deployed in the immediate vicinity of the Nicaraguan border. The U.S. battleship "Missouri" has passed through the Panama Canal and has headed toward the Pacific shore of Central America.

The U.S. publication L.A. WEEKLY asserts that the Pentagon has planned the invasion of Nicaragua for the first few months of this year. It estimates that during the maneuvers held recently in Honduras around 50,000 U.S. soldiers rehearsed a similar operation and a further 50,000 soldiers practised support tactics from on board warships. Shortly before the New Year celebrations, subunits of the 1st mechanized infantry division with full equipment, including tanks, as well as air support subunits equipped with transport helicopters were transferred to Honduras from Fort Riley, Kansas and Fort Hood, Texas.

The Sandinista revolution's enemies are deliberately exacerbating the situation on the border between Honduras and Nicaragua. It is with that propagandist aim that U.S. helicopters transferred Honduran troops there and U.S.-made aircraft bearing Honduran insignia bombed the Nicaraguan population centers of El Murra and (Vivili).

U.S. Air Force bombing raids, the imposition of a naval blockade, and the termination of diplomatic relations between the United States and Nicaragua may be timed to coincide with the "contras'" offensive operations planned for the beginning of the year. U.S. Embassy personnel in Managua have been instructed to be ready to leave the country at any moment at Washington's signal. Shortly before this announcement, Poindexter, then the President's national security adviser, stated that Reagan "has no intention of leaving the Nicaragua problem to his successor and wants to be rid of the Sandinistas without delay."

Crudely violating the elementary norms of international law and the principles of the UN Charter, the U.S. Administration is increasing the overt interference in Nicaragua's affairs. But the excalation of U.S. imperialism's military, political, and economic aggression is causing the defenders of the Sandinist revolution to close ranks even tighter. "Nicaragua will not surrender!" -- these words will become this year's main slogan in the republic.

The Truth Behind the "Doctrine" [subhead]

From the very first days of the new year in Tokyo a new trend has appeared in Japan's foreign policy efforts. Foreign minister Kuranari decided to open his diplomatic calendar with a visit to Australia, New Zealand, Fiji, and Papua-New Guinea. Initially it was supposed that after the regular Japanese-Australian consultations Kuranari would set off for Washington so as to somehow ease the high feelings concerning the growing imbalance in bilateral trade (in 1985 Japanese exports to the United States exceeded imports by $50 billion and in 1986, by all accounts, that figure will increase to $70 million). It transpires, however, that the "Irangate" scandal has for the moment pushed this problem into the background and that the White House is in no mood to receive guests from Tokyo now.

That is why it was announced that the Japanese foreign minister intends to begin the year with a visit to countries in the South Pacific, and to announce Tokyo's "Pacific doctrine" during this tour since this region has unexpectedly assumed special significance for Japan's national security.

The truth behind the doctrine is revealed by MAINICHI. According to that newspaper the ANZUS treaty has virtually ceased to be operative in the South Pacific because the New Zealand Government has decided not to allow U.S. ships carrying nuclear weapons to visit its ports. On the other hand, the Soviet Union recently concluded fishing agreements with the Pacific Ocean island states of Kiribati and Vanuatu and established contacts with Fiji. All this, MAINICHI notes, is extremely worrisome to Washington. Thus Japan must comprehensively step up its ties with the South Pacific states so as to "block Soviet penetration and keep the region in the orbit of Western influence."

The hysteria about "Soviet expansion" was of course not caused by the appearance of our tuna ships off the shores of Kiribati or Vanuatu. As London's THE ECONOMIST puts it, the Americans are trying to check the spread of the "nuclear allergy." They are alarmed by the influence of New Zealand's example on the public of the Philippines, Japan, and South Korea. They do not like the Rarotonga Treaty on the creation of a nuclear-free zone in the South Pacific. Now Japan has been set the task of pressuring the region using the neocolonialist range of economic and financial levers. It has been decided to double Japanese credits and subsidies to Oceania. Nine small island states will soon be visited by a specially formed group of representatives of Japanese state institutions and private firm.

Washington clearly prefers to do all this through the medium of Tokyo and at the same time expand the scale of U.S.-Japanese military cooperation. It is noteworthy that Kuranari's Pacific Ocean trip coincides with the latest U.S.-Japanese consultations on security problems held annually in Honolulu. This time the discussion specifically included the question of increasing Japan's contribution to the maintenance of the U.S. bases on its territory. The fact is that in the past year the yen has risen greatly in value in the currency markets (in round figures it fell from 240 to the dollar to 160). Thus whereas before, for example, the Pentagon used to pay $1 billion for the U.S. bases in Japan, now it takes $1.5 billion to meet similar costs.

This was highlighted by the authors of the state budget, noting a 5.2 percent increase in military appropriations over last year. This means that Japan's military budget will reach $22 billion this year and for the first time will exceed the limit of 1 percent of GNP. (The Pentagon has already expressed its delight at that.) However, in breaking with that traditional limit, the government is hushing the other aspect of the matter: Given the present rate of the yen U.S. military hardware has become one-third cheaper for Japan. The National Defense Agency is actually buying more patrol ships and autisubmarine aircraft this year.

Shortly before the consultations in Honolulu, a memorandum was signed on the results of U.S.-Japanese research into cooperation between the two countries' Armed Forces during the performance of joint operations. This research began after Tokyo declared its readiness to assume the patrolling of the sea lanes up to 1000 km from Japan's shores. For several years representatives of the two countries' military departments produced computer models of various types of conflict situations in Asia and in the adjacent ocean waters.

According to press reports, the Japanese "Self-Defense Forces" are being given the duty of escorting U.S. aircraft carriers, carrying out autisubmarine operations, and blockading international straits. One option, the newspaper ASAHI reports, envisages Japanese naval and air force actions involving 170 warships and nearly 500 aircraft. Tokyo commentators are drawing attention to the fact that Japan is assigned an auxiliary role in backing up America's plans not only in the Far East but also in the Indian Ocean as far as the Persian Gulf. This, therefore, represents a clear transformation of the U.S.-Japanese " security treaty."

It is now being interpreted not as a U.S. commitment to help Japan in the event of a Far East conflict but as a Japanese commitment to take part in America's global military-strategic schemes.

Kuranari's Pacific Ocean trip and the Honolulu consultations ultimately have the same aim: to prevent the growth of antiwar feelings and to block initiatives leading to the improvement of the situation in the Asia and Pacific region so as to continue to militarize it by the joint efforts of Washington and Tokyo.

PONOMAREV DESCRIBES 'SAD FATE' OF DEFECTORS

PM061025 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS Observer Viktor Ponomarev article written for IZVESTIYA: "The 'Diminishing Returns' of Treachery"]

[Text] "I want to get to America, where I'll be able to say what I like and live as I like." This is what, according to his recollections, Murat Karimov, a former Soviet citizen who fled abroad, told the Turkish border guards about his reasons for appearing on their coast. Soon afterwards he was transported to Munich, where CIA staffers checked and interrogated him for 3 months in a safe apartment under reliable guard. He was convinced that, being a serviceman, he would be able to "offer" something to the Americans and would receive an "appropriate reward" in return. He was assured that in New York there is a "Tolstoy Foundation" which would help him to learn English, find him somewhere to live, and supply him with pocket money.

Now, months after his arrival in the United States, he sits with (Peyman Pedzhmen), correspondent of THE WASHINGTON POST NATIONAL WEEKLY EDITION, and laments his fate: He has neither a job nor the promised knowledge of the language to enable him to earn anything and is up to his neck in debt, since he borrows spending money from a friend. Aside from the monthly rent for his apartment and $40 to set up home, Karimov sighs, he has received absolutely nothing from the foundation.

"Ah yes," the U.S. journalist bitterly echoes him. "Many refugees find the promised land highly inhospitable."

That is the phrase he used for the headline of an article describing the collapse of the illusions of former Soviet citizens who have broken away from their motherland and whom he met in America.

Yet another eloquent admission of the unenviable fate of the "former citizens"? We have already seen a television movie about them, penetrating in its tragic, bitter truth, and have heard the confessions of those who were once deceived and have returned home. It would seem that THE WASHINGTON POST has nothing new to add, and Mr (Pedzhmen's) tears over the "sad fate" of defectors [perebezhchiki] who have betrayed the motherland would hardly be worthy of attention were it not for an article by our old acquaintance David Shipler, which appeared in THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE in early December. "Old acquaintance" because until quite recently Shipler worked as a correspondent in Moscow and was close to people who love to complain about everything "Soviet" and to gossip about life over there, across the ocean. So he has firsthand knowledge of the essence of the problem.

In the last few years, Shipler writes, defectors from the Soviet Union and East Europe have discovered that the U.S. Government does virtually nothing to help them adapt to life in America... [paragraph continues]

They start in unskilled jobs totally unrelated to their vocational training... People wash dishes, clean typewriters... They find out that they can rely only on themselves and feel lost in the middle of what they perceive as an endless sea of opportunities...

"What they perceive as" is an extremely apt journalistic proviso. Where is it, that "sea of opportunities"? Let us hear what those who have plunged into it have to say according to, for example, THE WASHINGTON POST. And we quote:

"A refugee from the Soviet Union says: 'The rosy picture presented to you by certain radio stations like VOA while you were still in the USSR suddenly turns into something like a castle in the air or a house of cards collapsing before your very eyes. I recall hearing a VOA program describe how cheap a pound of meat was in the States compared with the Soviet Union, and how some refugee or other had obtained a wonderful job and started living in luxury as soon as he got to the United States. They never directly say to you: Fine, Mr Russian, come to the West and we'll give you everything you can imagine. But I would say that they keep on dropping hints to make people think of taking such a step.' What happens afterwards? 'Both you and good old America are left with a mass of opportunities, except that you haven't the slightest idea on whose door to knock and how the local system works...'"

But it must be said that the system works very well! Here is what THE WASHINGTON POST has to say about it:

Aleksandra Kosta, a diplomat's wife, says that she has "difficulties in relationships" since people do not understand her potential and her needs. She is told: You have children, you are not young, and you will not make a career in the business world. Be a secretary!..

Another woman who left the USSR and who was "pumped" for information for several months in Vienna before being given a visa says that, although she used to be a university lecturer, she was placed in the charge of a refugee organization in New York, where she was offered a job on a farm...

What about the "sea of opportunities" and the "mass of opportunities"? Here is what the actual "bosses" who deal with refugees have to say. Take for example (Leon Marian), executive director of the Tolstoy Foundation. If he is to be believed, as THE WASHINGTON POST notes, this organization is in no way "legally bound to bear financial responsibility for refugees and deserters appealing to the foundation." According to an unwritten agreement between ourselves and the Department of State, (Marian) says, we are morally obliged to keep an eye on our clients for 90 days, but that is all! Of course, we receive $560 per refugee from the federal government, but the money is spent mainly on...administrative costs, he adds with embarrassment. As for any promises, according to (Marian), who is extremely competent in his field, these hopes stem from "misunderstandings and lack of information."

Washington lawyer William Geimer read a similar lecture to a NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE correspondent. He heads the "Jamestown Foundation" private organization, founded in Chicago in 1984, which is concerned with "diplomats and members of the intelligentsia" from East Europe. He subsidizes 25 of them! One of them repairs typewriters, another is still harried by lawyers and creditors... In general, there are quite a few concerns, but as for opportunities...they are just like in another similar organization. That is the "International Rescue Committee" in New York, which issues defectors with...$45 each. So, Murat Karimov should not complain: Others are not getting any better "breaks"!

"I often telephone the Department of State," (Leon Marian) says, "and loudly persuade them not to promise escapers, deserters, and refugees that they are going to the promised land. Time and again I ask them not to promise these people anything, because as soon as they arrive here these promises simply evaporate, and this creates problems for all of us..."

But maybe this applies only to the "pawns"? There are also the "big guns" who are looked after by congressmen, parliamentarians, public figures, and -- finally -- the CIA with its "unlimited opportunities..."

Looked after! For a while...

"There is a grave problem of lack of understanding and aid for refugees encountering various personal and psychological difficulties. They could give serious food for thought in the next decade or so to any Russians who may be wanting to flee to the United States" -- this is what worries one of those who fled to the United States and is in the pay of the CIA in return for betraying the motherland and his relatives. There are no pangs of conscience regarding the suicide of his wife, who could not bear the shame of his betrayal, and no concern at all about the "other Russians"! He is scaring his masters because he has run out of money and has been refused further subsidies. This is why the "problem of lack of understanding" has arisen...

The "sea of opportunities" proves to be, even for the "big gun," not as vast as it appears to be from afar. It is rather a tiny pond which dries up quickly and irreversible. As, for example, in the case of Irina Grivnina, whose fate was reported a few days ago by the Netherlands newspaper HAAGSCHE COURANT.

It is exactly a year since she left the Soviet Union amid scandal, clamor, and hysterics. Ed Nijpels, leader of a liberal party faction, made a great show of "adopting" Grivnina and her two daughters at that time. Robert van Vooren (also known as Johannes Baks), a CIA agent from the so-called "Bukovskiy Foundation," shuttled as a courier between The Hague and Moscow under his real and assumed names. She was still living here and had not composed a single poem, but the magazine ELSEVIERS had already proclaimed her to be "a famous poet and essayist" and listed her as its "correspondent" in Moscow.

A year passed. In a rundown apartment in Amsterdam furnished by the Salvation Army, she complains to correspondent Meuninghoff: "I was used." This is also the headline of his article. Her interlocutor describes her confession as a sobering-up process and an inevitable eye-opener. It is worth a more detailed study to hear at first hand about the "freedom" and "sea of opportunities" offered only to people who have abandoned their motherland. Here it is, as narrated by the Netherlands journalist.

The first thing that a person finding himself in the West can do is tell all sorts of scurrilous stories about the Soviet Union. The propaganda apparatus lines up to interview him for 2-3 weeks. He gets the impression that he will continue to be listened to with great attention. It soon becomes clear, however, that this is a misconception. The "blaze of publicity" diminishes day by day. He finds himself in a society that is not particularly interested in him. There are even sounds of irritation when yesterday's "hero" tries to get attention once the storm of passions around him has abated. This is what happened with Amalrik, HAAGSCHE COURANT writes. The very same is happening with Grivnina. The West had "a completely incorrect and extremely distorted and inflated impression" of her. Members of parliament tried to get into her good boods, and she was treated as a colleague at a festive cocktail party at the editorial office.

But the euphoria was soon over. "I should have adapted sooner in order to become master of my fate here," Grivnina smokes nervously while conversing with the journalist, "but instead I let myself be dragged all over the place to appear as a dissident..."

She recalls how she went off in hysterics at the Geneva press center during the summit meeting:

"I was inexperienced. Some people wanted me to create a scandal there, and I gave in out of emotion."

"You were exploited by politicians, ELSEVIERS, and the 'Bukovskiy Foundation'?" -- the correspondent clarifies.

"I fully agree with that."

Only 6 months had passed. She ran out of fresh mud to sling at her former motherland. Suddenly her "adoptive father" Ed Nijpels disappeared. She was told at the editorial office that she was totally incapable of writing and her contract would not be extended. CIA agent Vooren, also known as Baks, also disappeared and therefore she is no longer in contact with the "Bukovskiy Foundation."

Grivnina smokes nervously: How quickly the "pond of opportunities" dried up! But she will "try" again... She has been offered "support" in Bavaria, where she has been promised she can "live almost for nothing in the home of a successful anticommunist..." For a few weeks. The "diminishing returns" of treachery are a defector's fate and lot.

"They squeeze everything thay can from these people, and then cast them off," Shipler of THE NEW YORK TIMES was told by an American in close contact with defectors. They -- that means the CIA, the newspaper explains so as to leave no doubts at all, and Robert Gates, first deputy director of the CIA, who is named by the correspondent -- and the "Jamestown Foundation," we would add for our part. After all, its Vice President James Williams told Shipler that neither the CIA nor any other U.S. special service can be held responsible for the fate of defectors in general. Williams is another well informed person -- former director of the U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency! They are incapable, he said, of providing "social services."

Why? And we quote:

"People there believe that anyone who becomes a defector is a traitor from any point of view, and they treat defectors like dirt."

ECONOMIST REVIEWS OPEC PRICING DISCUSSIONS

PM061642 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Dec 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Candidate of Economic Sciences I. Yermachenkov article: "OPEC: Return to Base Prices"]

[Text] At a conference in Geneva the other day, the OPEC countries adopted a plan to increase oil prices to a level of $18 per barrel (159 liters).

This plan provides for a reduction of 1 million barrels a day in the extraction of "black gold" by the organization's members, from 1 February next year. The plan's adoption means a return to the system of firm base prices for oil which existed in the market until the end of last year.

As is known, at the end of 1985 OPEC's base prices were $28 per barrel. But under the influence of Western countries and their oil monopolies, OPEC was forced to renounce fixed prices. For this reason, the situation in the world oil market fairly rapidly went out of control, and by the summer of this year prices fell to $9 per barrel.

In the context of the fall of oil prices by two-thirds in the first half of 1986, the events of the seventies spring to mind, when an increase many times over in "black gold" prices shook the importing countries. This year the significant fall in prices caused shock waves. This happened not as a result of an oil surplus in the world, but because of artificial flooding of the market.

Ruling circles in Washington and a number of other Western countries proceeded on the basis that low oil prices will lead to economic revival, but, contrary to expectations, they promoted an increase in unemployment, an increase in the lack of confidence among business circles, and a reduction in production growth rates. In the United States, for instance, nearly half the derricks closed down, and investments in oil prospecting and extraction were reduced substantially.

The fall in oil prices caused shock waves in the OPEC countries themselves. When, at the end of 1985, the decision was taken to abandon base prices for oil, the majority of OPEC members were proceeding on the basis of the possibility of a fall of a few dollars a barrel, but nobody expected prices to fall below $20 per barrel.

Trying to find a way out of the situation which had taken shape, many oil-producing countries began to curtail construction of important economic projects and cut imports of food and industrial goods, and were again forced to resort to foreign loans on even tougher terms.

Even countries like Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Libya, the United Arab Emirates, and Qatar found themselves in a relatively difficult position. They sharply reduced imports, froze the construction of many projects, sent away hundreds of thousands of foreign workers, and repudiated a number of financial commitments to other countries. The losses from oil sales of the Arab oil-producing countries alone are already in excess of $100 billion this year.

The oil-producing countries which are not OPEC members, like Mexico, Egypt, Malaysia, Oman, Angola, and Norway, support OPEC's efforts to regulate oil prices. Representatives of many of those countries took part in the 80th OPEC conference as observers. Nor does the Soviet Union stand aside from efforts to stabilize and level prices on the world oil market. It was and is a supporter of the establishment of fair, stable, and predictable prices.

The decision taken at the Geneva conference indicates that the OPEC countries, despite the differences which exist between them, have been able to take an important step along the path of establishing stable prices. The foreign mass media report that in the last 2 weeks oil prices have risen to $17.5-18.

REAGAN NEW YEAR MESSAGE TERMED 'HYPOCRITICAL'

LD052021 Moscow TASS in English 1945 GMT 5 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 5 TASS -- Melor Sturua, in his comment in IZVESTIYA, describes as "hypocritical" the New Year message of U.S. President Ronald Reagan to the Soviet people. In that message which was broadcast by the "Voice of America" the President repeatedly mentions "the magnificent Russian soul" and says "let us hear the voice of this soul".

"Where and when did Mr. Reagan in all six years of his Presidency hear the voice of the Russian soul? I don't thing I remember that", Melor Sturua says.

"Mr. Reagan does not hear even the voice of the American soul. Most Americans demand that an end be put to nuclear tests -- but Reagan is continuing these tests. Most Americans demand that the SALT-2 treaty be observed -- but Reagan tears it to pieces. Most Americans demand that an end be put to the arms race -- Reagan is escalating it".

"Last year in Reykjavik there was a time when mankind sort of looked beyond the horizon and sighted the outlines of a non-nuclear world. But the historic chance was missed, and not through the fault of the Soviet side".

"The Washington leaders are acting against their conscience before both peoples, since they do not want to hear their soul which demands peace and security of one people to the detriment or at the expense of security of the other people. [sentence as received] It is only together that we may die or survive", stressed Melor Sturua.

DEMOCRATS CHALLENGE REAGAN'S ARMS CONTROL POLICY

LD071020 Moscow TASS in English 0805 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Washington January 7 TASS -- Democrats challenged the Reagan administration's arms control policies on the very first working day of the 100th Congress, by officially sponsoring three bills in the House, which the ASSOCIATED PRESS said blocked major White House plans to develop new kinds of weapons.

One bill provides for denying funds for the U.S. program of nuclear testing involving yields of over one kiloton as long as the Soviet Union keeps observing its unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions.

Another one calls for a ban on U.S. anti-satellite (ASAT) weapons testing against real targets in space in fiscal 1988, while the third one demands compliance with the SALT-2 treaty which the White House has demonstratively renounced in defiance of congressional opinion.

SENATE SETS UP COMMISSION TO PROBE 'IRANGATE'

LD071017 Moscow TASS in English 0816 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Washington January 7 TASS -- The U.S. Senate has approved by an overwhelming majority vote the bill on setting up a special Senate commission to investigate into U.S. undercover arms shipments to Iran and the funnelling of the funds thus earned to the Nicaraguan contras.

The commission including eleven members -- six Democrats and five Republicans -- is to complete its work by August 1, this year. Yet the leaders of both parties in Senate agreed that the term of its work might be extended until October 30. A similar commission is being set up at the U.S. House of Representatives. The bill on setting up the commission is to be tabled at the lower chamber tomorrow.

IRAN AFFAIR UNDERMINES CONFIDENCE IN REAGAN

LD070836 Moscow TASS in English 0807 GMT 7 Jan 87

["'Irangate' Undermines Confidence in White House" -- TASS headline]

[Text] San Francisco January 7 TASS -- According to a public poll held by the NBC TV company, nearly two-thirds of Americans believe that the political scandal which erupted in Washington and called the "Irangate," will damage President Reagan's ability to run efficiently the country in the two remaining years of his stay in office. The company conducted a telephone poll calling 800 Americans. Some 60 percent of the polled expressed the opinion that U.S. officials had violated the law, secretly supplying Iran with weapons and transferring proceeds to Nicaraguan Contras. Over 50 percent of the polled said that they did not believe in the ability of the present Washington administration to take correct foreign policy decisions.

ARTICLE VIEWS U.S.-EEC TRADE CONFRONTATION

LD021030 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2117 GMT 1 Jan 87

["Confrontation Between the United States and EEC" -- TASS headline; commentary by Vitaliy Gan in 2 January PRAVDA]

[Text] Moscow, 2 Jan (TASS) -- At the very end of the last year the United States fired a powerful salvo in the trade war with its European partners-competitors, writes PRAVDA today.

On 31 December Reagan's administration decided to raise customs barriers for a wide range of goods from the "Common Market" countries. The new U.S. protectionist measures concerned cheeses, olives, alcoholic drinks, and a number of other goods. In some cases the duty is 200 percent and involves the exports of European goods of total sum of $400 million. By the same token the prices of European goods are being artificially raised and will clearly become uncompetitive on the U.S. market.

The introduction by Spain of new tariffs on the deliveries of grain for fodder from the United States which was a consequence of its joining the EEC served as a pretext for Washington's protectionist offensive. This step on the part of Madrid, taken in accordance with EEC rules, will lead, it has been calculated, to a reduction in exports from the United States of corn and sorghum by $400-500 million. It is by just this amount that Washington has now decided to "fine" its European partners.

In contrast to previous periods when the United States could dictate its will to its weaker allies, Washington's current assault could come up against their growing opposition. According to reports from the local press, Europeans, to judge by it all, do not intend to give way and intend to take actions in reply. In the opinion of a number of observers, the "Common Market" is now ready to escalate the trade confrontation, which could, as the local press points out, "turn out to be a catastrophe for both sides."

Be that as it may, the latest flash of transatlantic squabbles over markets once again demonstrates the irreconcilability and the scale of interimperialist contradictions. Apart from that, it is also evidence of Washington's readiness, when things reach the stage of curbing the appetite of American monopolies, to carry on regardless and crudely walk over the interests of its very own allies, writes Vitaliy Gan, the author of the commentary.

Europe, Japan Sanctions Viewed

LD041326 Moscow TASS in English 1254 GMT 4 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 4 TASS -- By TASS news analyst Ivan Ablamov:

The United States has threatened further sanctions against Japan and Western Europe unless they make concessions to Washington in their trade policies.

For a starter, a U.S. representative to trade talks warned in an interview with the newspaper YOMIURI, Congress would adopt the Gerhardt amendment demanding that such countries as Japan and West Germany, which have a large surplus in their trade with the United States, cut it by importing more American goods.

Then, the U.S. official threatened, further "corrective action" would follow.

Washington has been stepping up pressure on the allies in a bid to regain its lost positions in world trade and weaken competitors through blackmailing and bullying.

In the very end of last year the United States announced restrictions on the purchase of machine-tools from West Germany and Switzerland and then also increased duties on the import of many kinds of farm produce from the EEC countries.

The Common Market responded by promising to retaliate against U.S. agricultural products sold in West European markets.

However, there were also attempts to accommodate the U.S. position.

West Germany, for example, proposed that an independent GATT mediator be appointed to help settle disagreements between the U.S. and the EEC.

But the U.S. Administration has been rejecting any compromise. Actually interfering in the Common Market's internal jurisdiction, Washington said the terms for the entry of Spain and Portugal in the community, which place limitations on agricultural imports from the United States, were "unacceptable" and demanded compensation.

While paying lip service to "free trade", the United States has in practice been using the stick of protectionism against its allies.

Considering Western Europe's dependence on foreign trade, in particular on the American market, the United States hopes to force its own terms on the West Europeans, just as it was able to do repeatedly in the past.

Judging by the initial reaction in the West European capitals to Washington's unceremonious dealing with its allies, the situation now has somewhat changed.

In the old world they are openly displeased with the U.S. reluctance to trim its budget deficit, which has been undermining the American economy and the Western economy as a whole, and with the U.S. Administration's attempts to overcome its economic difficulties at the expense of its allies.

Although there was certain economic growth in Western Europe last year, it was absolutely insufficient either for providing jobs for the many millions of the unemployed or for solving scores of other social and economic problems.

In the old world they hold U.S. selfish trade, economic and financial policies responsible for this in many ways.

U.S. EMIGRE COMMENTS ON NEW LIFE IN MOSCOW

PM301643 [Editorial Report] Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 30 December 1986 carries on page 3 under the headline "The Lockshins: 'Happy New Year!'" a 1,500-word Moscow-datelined article by TASS correspondent A. Antonov, who reports on a visit he made to the Moscow apartment of the family of Arnold Lockshin, the American oncologist granted "political asylum in the Soviet Union at the beginning of October." Mrs Lockshin comments on the warmth of the reception shown them by Russians, and letters sent them are cited in corroboration of this. The three children are also quoted as expressing their satisfaction at being in the Soviet Union. Finally, Arnold Lockshin himself speaks as follows:

"First, I want to wish all Soviet people a Happy New Year and to apologize to those people whose letters I have not yet managed to answer. Second, allow me to assure all of you that we are experiencing no difficulties at all in our new life. Everything is taking its course: We are working, learning the language, relaxing, in short, everything is normal. I am again working at full strength. First-rate conditions have been created for me at the USSR Academy of Sciences All-Union Oncological Scientific Center. I am in charge of an excellent laboratory. My colleagues there are pleasant and very sensible people with whom relations are simple and straightforward. To tell the truth, on the basis of my albeit small experience, I see no special cultural or emotional difference between our peoples. Any average American working family (worker or professional) will on coming to the USSR live virtually the same as in the States. Unprejudiced views and opinions are the sole condition necessary for this. Russians, like Americans, prefer to eat meat, bread, and potatoes. They love watching sports and entertainment programs on television and visiting one another. Here people are people. And it is also very important that among the Soviet people, as distinct from the American people, there is no sense of hostility or fear regarding Americans either as a nation or individuals. Summarizing everything that my family has told me, I will say simply that we feel at home."

CPC WARNS AGAINST 'BOURGEOIS LIBERALIZATION'

PM071355 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Jan 87 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Against Bourgeois Liberalization"]

[Text] Beijing, 6 Jan -- Today the newspaper RENMIN RIBAO, organ of the CPC Central Committee, published an editorial entitled "Waging an Uncompromising Struggle Against Bourgeois Liberalization," in connection with the recent student demonstrations in a number of major PRC cities.

Noting that the student actions are "gradually waning," the paper writes, in particular, that "in China there is neither the ideological nor the material basis for the occurrence of major disturbances." The situation in the PRC today is different from the period of the "Cultural Revolution," which was "launched as a result of a leader's error." In this connection, the paper notes the "correctness of the Chinese Government's line, course, and policy" and the "cohesion of the party Central Committee."

In recent years, the article goes on, a considerable amount of work has been done on the ideological front, and there have been definite successes. But the stance on the question of the struggle against bourgeois liberalization was not firm enough.

"At the present time," the paper writes, "only a small number of people are advocating bourgeois liberalization. We favor reform of the economic system; they are advocating the capitalist path. We favor reforming the political structure; they are for Western-style restructuring. In practice this would be directing current policy in China onto the capitalist road."

RENMIN RIBAO stresses that "the time has now come to make a sober assessment of the situation. Bourgeois liberalization is poisoning our young people's consciousness, jeopardizing stability in the country and our cohesion, hindering the implementation of reforms and the conduct of an 'open door' policy, and hindering the entire process of the country's modernization. An uncompromising struggle against bourgeois liberalization is needed. In this struggle, the stance must be clear and the approach firm."

RENMIN RIBAO CITED ON STUDENT PROTEST 1 JAN

PM061445 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Jan 87 First Edition p 5

[B. Barakhta article: "RENMIN RIBAO Item"]

[Text] The newspaper RENMIN RIBAO reports that there was a demonstration by students from the capital's university in Tiananmen Square in Beijing on the evening of 1 January. More than 2,000 students from the PRC's largest academic institution took to the streets and headed for the city center. Instigated by a handful of people with definite plans in mind, the newspaper writes, the demonstrators made demands, including some of a reactonary nature. Satsifying these demands would lead to rejection of the Communist Party's leadership and renunciation of socialism in the PRC.

In this connection, RENMIN RIBAO points to the need to do the utmost to maintain the atmosphere of stability and unity achieved in the country since the chaos of the "Cultural Revolution." China would have no future without the CPC and socialism, the newspaper writes. [paragraph continues]

All economic and political reform must be conducted under the leadership of the Communist Party with the aim of improving the socialist system and not in order to reject or weaken party leadership or change the socialist system in China. The Chinese people, RENMIN RIBAO points out, have no need of bourgeois democracy and capitalism -- they have made a definitive choice of favor of the new system.

'SUCCESS' OF BEIJING TRADE, INDUSTRY FAIR VIEWED

PM071212 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 28 Dec 86 p 3

[TASS correspondents G. Krivosheyev, V. Tomilin report: "Motto: Good-Neighborliness"]

[Text] Beijing -- A USSR trade and industry exhibition which has been in operation here since 12 December closes today in Beijing. It was the first time in more than 30 years that such a prestigious Soviet exhibition had been held in China. Interest was aroused because of another gratifying fact, too. "In recent years," N.I. Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, said in a message of greetings to visitors to the exhibition, "there has been a marked improvement in relations between the Soviet Union and the PRC: Multifaceted ties are expanding, trade is increasing, and economic, scientific, technical, and cultural cooperation is developing. The level of mutual contacts between representatives of the two countries is rising."

As Zhao Ziyang, premier of the PRC State Council, said, it created good opportunities for the Chinese people to learn about the Soviet people's achievements in socialist building. Being informed about each other helps to strengthen the collaboration already established and opens up new spheres for cooperation between the two countries.

It was with this aim that the Soviet exhibition was constructed, with the participation of more than 20 all-union foreign trade associations, the USSR Academy of Sciences, the USSR State Committee for Atomic Energy, and other institutions and organizations.

A central place was assigned to the power industry. Energomasheksport recently signed a major contract for the delivery of 10 power units to China for 4 thermal power stations. The heightened interest shown by Chinese specialists in Soviet power equipment at the exhibition enables us, in the opinion of the organizers, to count on the conclusion of new mutually advantageous contracts in this sphere.

"Frankly, there's no time for a cup of tea," joked Vladimir Sergeyevich Strelchenko, one of the creators of a unique groove rolling tool [shlitsenakatnyy stanok] developed at the Altay Scientific Research Institute of Machine Building Technology.

"It's not a machine tool, it's a miracle," Luo Xiaoqi, worker at the Beijing metallurgical combine, told us. "I had dreamed of working on one like that."

There were always a lot of people around the working model of a container pipeline -- a new, efficient, ecologically clean form of transport.

The modernization and retooling of industrial enterprises are taking place on a large scale in China, and naturally this Soviet innovation special attention.

Wide prospects for cooperation between our countries were also demonstrated by the section of the exhibition containing models of maritime and river ships and equipment for the study of the sea bed. For China, with a dense network of small rivers, the diesel ship "Moskovskiy," equipped with a flexible device [izgibayusheyesya ustroystvo], is very suitable, Chinese experts believe. And the river diesel ship "Moskva" is splendidly adapted for operation on the Huang He, Chang Jiang, and Sungari -- the PRC's main water arteries.

Great opportunities for the development of Soviet-Chinese economic relations lie in the historically established trade ties in border regions. Goods which the USSR offers within the framework of border trade made up a separate section of the exhibition. There was always a crowd of visitors by the refrigerators and washing machines displayed here, which are in great demand on the local market.

"It may be said confidently that the exhibition was a success," Valeriy Nikolayevich Shpakov, director of the exhibition, says, summing up the results. "It was a kind of catalyst in the expansion of Soviet-Chinese ties and contacts in various spheres, and demonstrated the tremendous reserves for good-neighborly cooperation."

Representatives of Traktoroeksport, Avtoeksport, Mashinoeksport, Stankoimport, and other all-union associations discussed with Chinese colleagues from corresponding foreign trade companies the prospects and concrete tasks for developing cooperation in their spheres. The Chinese side showed interest in acquiring many Soviet machine tools, motors, and sets of equipment displayed at the exhibition. A major contract for USSR participation in the modernization of one of China's leading enterprises, the Wuhan metallurgical combine, which was built in the fifties with Soviet assistance, was concluded ceremoniously.

PRC AIRS CONCERN OVER JAPANESE MILITARY SPENDING

LD021639 Moscow TASS in English 1601 GMT 2 Jan 87

[Text] Beijing January 2 TASS -- A spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China (PRC) expressed concern here today over Japan's decision to exceed its ceiling on military spending.

This year Japan's military spending is known to exceed the limit of one per cent of gross national product (GNP).

The spokesman pointed out, the XINHUA news agency reports, that Japan's military spending should not exceed its defence needs and make its neighbours feel uneasy.

There is hope in China that in this connection the Japanese Government will take the lessons of history into consideration, the PRC's Foreign Ministry spokesman emphasized.

JAPAN'S 'MILITARIZATION,' SDI EFFORTS SCORED

LD070700 Moscow TASS in English 0638 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 7 TASS -- Official Tokyo has once again sworn allegiance to the militaristic designs of its overseas ally, the newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA says in its short commentary headlined "Japan: Going Up the Ladder of Militarisation." The commentary deals with the forthcoming visit to the USA of a special Japanese mission to hold a fresh round of talks on Japan's participation in Washington's Star Wars programme. According to the newspaper NIHON KEIZAI, KRASNAYA ZVEZDA says, the Nakasone cabinet would wish to conclude already this spring an intergovernmental draft document spelling out the details of the joint effort to implement the SDI programme.

This "preparedness" of Japan is already substantiated by specific deeds. On the eve of the new year, the government endorsed the draft new budget, in which there has been again no cut in military appropriations. Moreover, Tokyo has demonstrated that the "ceiling" fixed in 1976 for spendings on the needs of the defence ministry is no obstacle to the militaristic ambitions of the ruling circles. Prime Minister Nakasone openly said that it is necessary to remove the one-percent barrier.

The confidential government report on joint Japanese-U.S. research into the "protection" of transport communications in the Pacific, which has just been published in the newspaper YOMIURI is in line with the so-called "defence policy". The authors of the report openly advocate a further broadening of military preparations by Japan for ensuring an effective support for the actions of the U.S. military in the region. The provocative report provides for a strengthening of the power of the Air Force and the Navy and their equipment with the latest weapons.

A further growth of Japan's military role in north-western Pacific, the newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA says, will also be the subject of discussions at the Japanese-U.S. consultations on security issues scheduled to open in Honolulu today. As the newspaper ASAHI said, they are to lay the groundwork for new specific areas of military cooperation between the USA and Japan. Thus, the newspaper KRASNAYA ZVEZDA says in conclusion, it is with Washington's blessing that Tokyo is making a new step on the way of a revision of the principles proclaimed earlier and giving a green light to an uncontrolled weapons race.

VISITING DPRK OFFICIAL DISCUSSES COOPERATION

LD071051 Moscow TASS in English 1033 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 7 TASS -- Soviet-Korean consultations were held at the USSR Foreign Ministry from January 4 to 6. Taking part in the consultations were USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev and DPRK's deputy foreign minister Yi In-kyu.

They discussed some issues pertaining to a further development of Soviet-Korean relations and on a number of international issues, in particular the situation in the Far East. Agreement has also been reached on a plan of cooperation between the foreign ministries of the two countries for 1987-1988.

The consultations proceeded in an atmosphere of friendship and full mutual understanding.

SHEVARDNADZE, DRA'S NAJIB ADDRESS KABUL RECEPTION

PM071119 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Jan 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Working Visit to the DRA"]

[Text] Kabul, 6 Jan -- The working visit to the DRA by E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, and A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, is continuing.

Yesterday evening, Comrade Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee, gave a reception on behalf of the Central Committee and the DRA Government.

Addressing the Soviet guests, he proposed a toast to the everlasting and inviolable Afghan-Soviet friendship and to the Soviet leaders, who strengthen this friendship by word and deed and give their utmost help to revolutionary Afghanistan.

All of us, said Najib, were enormously impressed with our recent meeting with Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, and we highly value his benevolence, his Bolshevik adherence to principles, and his comradely warmth. We admire his energy and initiative. From Mikhail Sergeyevich, we all learn revolutionary ethos as well as selflessness in serving the people. We are becoming convinced to a greater and greater extent that the world is developing under the influence of the Soviet Union's peace-loving ideas.

A surprisingly [udivitelno] warm and cordial conversation was held today, continued the general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee. This meeting took place in a spirit of cordiality. And in this atmosphere, I would like to express the feeling of love each one of us feels for the Soviet people and for Soviet Communists.

Our people have gained life, freedom, and independence thanks to the all-round assistance of Soviet Russia and the Soviet Union! We especially remember and especially acknowledge the fact that you have shared your powerful strength with us.

On behalf of the whole Afghan people, Comrade Najib expressed warm gratitude to the internationalist Soviet troops who came in this difficult period to the assistance of the young, democratic Afghanistan. Our party and country, the Afghan leader stressed, have entered a special phase of historical development -- we are beginning the process of national reconciliation. It is symbolic that it has coincided with the beginning of the new year. The new year is always a time of new hopes, plans, and accomplishments. But we are well aware that today good wishes and concrete plans are not enough; we need good deeds and concrete actions. We believe that our hopes will be justified and our plans fulfilled, and that this new year will become the year of national reconciliation in Afghanistan!

Let me once again express all the very best to you in this new year, 1987 -- the year of the 70th anniversary of Great October!

Comrade E.A. Shevardnadze's speech:

Dear Comrade Najib!
Dear Friends!

Our meeting is taking place at a high point in time [na vysokom perevale vremeni] [paragraph continues]

The year 1986 has just ended, and with hopes of a better future we have entered 1987. But when I speak of this point in time, I don't have in mind just the change of one year to another.

We are concerned here with the truly historic moment through which Soviet-Afghan relations are passing, following the December meeting in Moscow of the top leaders of our two countries.

We are concerned with an event that was a turning point for your country, that is, the extraordinary plenum of the PDPA Central Committee, which, by its decision to implement a policy of nationwide reconciliation, stands out as a watershed in the history of the long-suffering Afghan people.

Saluting the courage with which you took this wise political decision, the Soviet leadership and, for his own part directly, M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, dispatched us here so that we might convey to you the Soviet Union's sincere wish to assist in every possible way the implementation of the line of national reconciliation.

We welcome its principles as laid out in Comrade Najib's report to the PDPA Central Committee plenum. The gesture of proposing a cease-fire is a noble and far-sighted one, and we hope that it will be supported by all contending forces in Afghanistan. A cease-fire is an essential prerequisite for the rumble of weapons to give way to the voice of reason, and for those who are at odds to come together at a common threshold of agreement and to be able, without hindrance, to discuss a peaceful future for their land.

As for us, your long-standing and devoted friends, rest assured: There is unlikely to be anyone in the world who desires more strongly than we do the success of nationwide reconciliation in Afghanistan. For this, this success, would mean peace in a neighboring country -- and that means peace for us, as well.

This would also mean the rapid return of Soviet troops to the homeland -- all our lads, who are awaited at home with such impatience, anxiety, and hope by mother, fathers, wives, fiancees, and comrades at work.

When enemies set fire to a neighbor's house, when he calls for help, a man immediately responds to that summons. This is how the Soviet Union acted at the time when it responded to the request of the Afghan Government. And today, when friends are finding ways and means and methods of putting out the fire with their own efforts, we support them in every way in this intention. In our turn, we are stepping up efforts toward negotiations, whether in Geneva, Islamabad, or New York, in all mediatory activity of the UN secretary general's personal representative.

This new year is remarkable in that it brings with it a new idea that gives rise to new hopes. This idea is capable of destroying the walls of hostility, filling the gulfs of mistrust, and erecting bridges of mutual understanding. The appeal made in Comrade Najib's New Year speech, and the program formulated in his report, are nothing other than a concrete manifestation of a new political philosophy and a new political thinking which rise above class, tribal, social group, and religious concepts in order to achieve and preserve life's greatest value -- peace for the people. In connection with this, I will permit myself the following comparison: When one first glances at a mountainous country from the view of a bird in flight, opened up before you is a chaotic jumble of fields, ravines, heights, and branching networks. However, in fact the whole of this complex system is unified and organized by a lofty and mighty ridge that is its backbone. We see the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan as such a backbone. [paragraph continues]

It acts as a force expressing the will of the people and its hopes.

Like the country itself, your party has gone through some difficult years -- the time of its creation, of assault, of overcoming internal difficulties, of searching for the only true path. Now it is emerging hardened, cohesive, and wise from its trials. The program of national reconciliation is evidence of this. It is addressed to all those true patriots for whom the peace and well-being of their native land are sacred. This program clearly brings out the measure of genuine patriotism, for one can judge whose heart truly grieves for his homeland from the attitudes people have toward the program.

National reconciliation and a political settlement are in accord with the interests of not just the Afghan people; they are without doubt advantageous to its neighbors, too. We are confident that the states that are Afghanistan's neighbors have an interest in peace and concord coming to Afghan soil. One does not choose one's neighbors, but one becomes an enemy by one's own choice. Yesterday's enemies have to choose good-neighborliness.

Afghanistan is also extending the hand of reconciliation to its neighbors. They will act wisely if they do not push this hand away.

Those who really wish Afghanistan well must assist political settlement in what they do. It is realistic and closer than ever before. The year that has just begun can and must be the start of new relations between Afghanistan and all its neighbors, of the strengthening of Afghanistan as a sovereign and independent state, and of implementing a policy of neutrality and nonalignment.

Democratic Afghanistan has many friends, and they increase with every year. This is because it carries out an acitve, peace-loving foreign policy. This is because Afghanistan, one of the founders of the Nonaligned Movement, fulfills an important role in this movement, a movement that has become a major factor in modern international relations.

We note with gratitude that the DRA has supported our program to set up an all-embracing system of international security, the initiatives aimed at securing a nuclear-free peace on earth and in space, and the Soviet proposals on forming a security system on the Asian Continent.

The principles of the historic Delhi declaration have met broad support in Afghanistan.

The community of our positions and the coincidence of our views on the main problems of modern life open up new scope for our cooperation on the international arena.

Dear Comrade Najib!
Dear Afghan friends!

It would be appropriate to recall today that at all times in the past our relations have never been darkened by enmity and hatred. We designed and built roads through high ranges along which, like along living arteries, the current of mutual attraction and good-neighborliness has flowed. And it is by no means our fault that misfortune has come to the soil of Afghanistan.

Yes, all that is so, but a the moment we would not like to speak only of the past. All our thoughts are about the peaceful future of our nearest neighbor, which he is building himself, with of course, the very active help of his friends.

I once again want to assure you of the fact that the feelings of the Soviet people will always be on the side of the Afghan people. We wish it peace and happiness, and we wish the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, its Central Committee, and the DRA Government success in implementing its policy of national reconciliation, which is peace and happiness for all Afghans, and for all their neighbors and friends.

Good health to you, Comrade Najib, and all your comrades-in-arms, and inexhaustible energy in the construction of a peaceful pan-Afghan house which knows no discord or strife.

'BOLD' DRA CEASE-FIRE, U.S. 'HOSTILITY' VIEWED

LD062034 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 6 Jan 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The working visit by Comrades Shevardnadze and Dobrynin to the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is continuing. A meeting was held today between Comrade Najib and Comrades Shevardnadze and Dobrynin. It was held in an atmosphere of sincerity and comradely mutual understanding.

A meeting was also held between Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politbuto and chairman of the country's Council of Ministers, and Eduard Amvrosiyevich Shevardnadze. The sides exchanged opinions on questions of mutual interest.

The same day Comrades Shevardnadze and Dobrynin met Wakil, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of foreign affairs of the republic.

Over to Political Observer Farid Seyful-Mulyukov:

[Seyful-Mulyukov, in studio with "Vremya" logo behind] The first days of January brought good news from Afghanistan and new hopes for its much-suffering people. Supported by the difficult experience of the country's development since the April Revolution and the will of broad sections of the population, the new Afghan leadership put forward a bold concept for national reconciliation. What makes it special is its comprehensive approach to solving the internal and external aspects of the Afghan problem.

In the middle of January, the Armed Forces of Democratic Afghanistan are unilaterally, for half a year, ceasing combat operations against the bandits. If the opposing forces take up this courageous step, the truce may be extended.

A cease-fire is a necessary prerequisite for ensuring that the thunder of guns gives way to the voice of common sense and that the belligerents meet at a joint threshold of agreement and can, without hindrance, discuss a peaceful future for their land, said Comrade Shevardnadze during a meeting with the Afghan leaders.

The call to talks is addressed to all Afghans, whatever their previous views and positions. Kabul is ready to set up a government of national unity, attracting broad political forces, and going as far as imparting to it the nature of a coalition. Even those who are now waging a struggle against the people's power could be included in the process of national reconciliation which has begun.

However, it is not a matter of shelving the gains of the April Revolution, which have taken deep root in the country, but rather, taking into consideration the country's national and social peculiarities, to ensure its further development on the path of progressive transformations and to guarantee Afghanistan the status of a sovereign, nonaligned state.

National reconciliation is inseparably linked with a political settlement to the situation around Afghanistan. Its government has extended the hand of reconciliation to its neighbors, too, in particular Pakistan and Iran. It is good-neighborliness and not enmity and the kindling of bloodshed on Afghan soil which can ensure peace and security in this region.

However, in the West, and especially in Washington, the decision by the Afghan leadership on a cease-fire and the beginning of talks on national reconciliation was met with skepticism and even hostility. Clearly, the old political stereotype was at work here. The United States, and some of its allies, saw the Afghan Government's bold step as a "propagandist act." What, for example, would happen if the White House embarked on the same sort of "propagandist step" and ceased -- at least for half a year -- rendering military aid to the bandits? I think that the cause of a political settlement in Afghanistan could only gain from it. But they do not even think of that in Washington. What can be heard there are instigatory voices urging the ringleaders of large bandit formations to refuse talks with the Afghan Government and torpedo its call for a cease-fire.

As "Irangate" has shown, and as the U.S. actions in Central America and other regions also show, the Reagan administration is striving in every way to kindle hot spots of conflict and maintain tension -- above all on the Soviet Union's borders.

As far as our country is concerned, it actively supports the process of national reconciliation in Afghanistan. Peace in a country which is our neighbor is peace for ourselves, too. I say with what joy, with tears in their eyes, the mothers in Kushka and Termez met their sons, brave Soviet soldiers who had returned from Afghanistan. An end to the bloodshed on Afghan soil would also mean a swift return to their homeland of all the Soviet servicement who, at a difficult hour, came to the assistance of the friendly people of Afghanistan.

SHEVARDNADZE, DOBRYNIN DEPART KABUL FOR MOSCOW

LD070925 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0900 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Comrade Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, and Comrade Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, left Kabul for Moscow today.

They had been staying there on a working visit at the invitation of the PDPA Central Committee and of the Afghan Government.

At Kabul International Airport the guests were seen off by Najib, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee; Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers; Ziray and Nur, members of the Politburo and secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee; Wakil, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and minister of foreign affairs of Afghanistan; and also Mozhayev, USSR ambassador to Afghanistan.

DRA NATIONAL RECONCILIATION EFFORT LAUDED

PM061657 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Jan 87 First Edition p 5

[Vadim Okulov dispatch from Kabul: "Taking a Constructive Course"]

[Text] People's power in the DRA has taken an important step on the way to achieving peace and calm in the land of Afghanistan. The republic's Revolutionary Council has announced the beginning of talks on national reconciliation with the opposing side. The conditions necessary for this are being created. Starting 15 January, the DRA Armed Forces will cease fire, halt combat operations against the dushmans, and limit themselves to guarding borders and strategic points. If the other side observes the truce, it may be extended beyond the proposed 6-month limit.

The people's power is appealing to all honest Afghans, to those who consider themselves patriots of Afghanistan and are prepared to work for their country's present and future, irrespective of their political views and positions. It is appealing to those who, for various reasons, had left the DRA but are now ready to take part in building a peaceful life in their own land. The process of national reconciliation also does not exclude various political groups and the leaders of armed formations settled abroad. The DRA Revolutionary Council declaration stresses that the people's power will strive to create a national unity government, going so far as to make it a coalition government involving broad political forces. It states that Islam is the religion of Afghanistan -- and this will be recorded in the new DRA Constitution.

This process of national reconciliation now beginning will create (provided there is a guarantee of no foreign interference in DRA affairs and no renewal of this interference in the future) favorable conditions for the limited contingent of Soviet troops in the DRA to return home as soon as possible. Their withdrawal began recently with the return of six regiments to the USSR.

The important step taken by the revolutionary power on the PDPA's initiative is dictated by concern for the interests of a people tired of war. And this step has met with understanding both in Afghanistan itself and beyond its borders. People can see that the appeal for reconciliation of a sign of the strength of the people's power, rather than a sign of weakness, as its enemies try to pretend.

Nevertheless, the reconciliation process will not be smooth or simple. Extremists from the counterrevolutionary camp will certainly do everything to wreck this process. But behind the ideas of peace and creativity that inspire true patriots lies the broad support of the Afghan people. The future belongs to them.

SPECIALISTS TO ASSIST IN BUILDING DRA BLOOD BANK

LD070315 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1405 GMT 6 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow, 6 Jan (TASS) -- A group of Soviet specialists, of medics and engineers, will soon depart for the DRA in order to start work together with Afghan colleagues on the first blood transfusion station in this country. Constructed with the USSR's technical assistance, it will become operational this year. A TASS correspondent was informed of this at the USSR Ministry of Health.

The station is outfitted with modern equipment. Here, donor blood and its components will be prepared and conserved, including under conditions of low temperature. Some of the newest refrigeration installations have been provided for this purpose, to supply the medical establishments in DRA. [paragraph continues]

The first Afghan specialists have already been trained in the USSR. The Soviet medics who will arrive in the country will assist in training new specialists. In the future, the station will be completely staffed by national personnel.

Cooperation in health care between the USSR and Afghanistan has long traditions. They were established 10 years ago, when the Soviet Union gave the people of the DRA hospital as a gift. With Soviet technical assistance, a hospital was built and equipped in Kabul, where some of the most modern methods of diagnosis and treatment are used. The result of joint work is the organization of the republican medical-epidemiological center. Relations in this area will be extended by the creation [sozdaniye] of the center for treatment and prosthesis. USSR architects have already began working on the project.

BOOK ON PDPA, SERVICEMEN IN DRA REVIEWED

PM071041 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian on 4 January 1987 in its Second Edition carries on page 2 under the rubric "Notes About Books" and the headline "Answering a Friend's Call" a 700-word Major V. Belozerov review of a new book on Afghanistan by V. Samoylenko entitled "How You Discover the Country (Afghanistan Through the Eyes of a Witness)" ["Kak Otkryvayesh Stranu (Afganistan Glazami Ochevidtsa)"], published in 1986 by the Novosibirsk published house. The book reportedly places chief emphasis on the role of "The PDPA, its leaders, and its ordinary members, who have accomplished real feats in the name of defending revolutionary gains." In addition, "The author devotes much attention to the Soviet internationalist servicemen helping the Afghans to repulse extenal aggression" and "tells of the courage, heroism, and nobility of Nikolay Chepik and Aleksandr Demakov, the many selfless everyday deeds, and the spiritual wealth of our soldiers and officers serving with the limited contingent of Soviet troops."

SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION MEETING HELD IN INDIA

LD051130 Moscow TASS in English 1006 GMT 5 Jan 87

[Text] New Delhi January 5 TASS -- Prospects for expanding the scientific and technological cooperation between the USSR and India on the basis of agreements reached during the official friendly visit to India by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, have been discussed at a meeting of experts in the south India city of Bangalore.

Heads of the departments of space research, electronics, science and technology, as well as of a number of leading research institutes have stressed the need of further strengthening mutually advantageous ties between the two countries in this important field to promote successful solution of the urgent tasks of social and economic development.

The meeting was chaired by a well-known Indian scientist, chairman of the Consultative Council on Science under the Indian prime minister, Professor Chantamani Nages Ramachandra Rao. The professor pointed out that the proposed programme would significantly broaden the boundaries of joint research of Soviet and Indian scientists. The guidelines for the cooperation had been already laid down and would include, in particular, such industries as laser technology, space research, power engineering and electronics.

'DAY OF SOLIDARITY' WITH CAMBODIA OBSERVED

LD071008 Moscow TASS in English 0950 GMT 7 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 7 TASS -- By TASS political news analyst Mikhail Yakovlev:

The public in many countries today observes a day of solidarity with the people of Kampuchea, who toppled the bloody regime of Pol Pot and Ieng Sary eight years ago to start national rebirth. That was how the era of independence, real freedom and gradual movement to socialism began in the history of the ancient country. The young people's republic has riveted the attention of both its friends and its enemies throughout all these eight years and this has been only natural.

For all these years Kampuchea has been healing the wounds inflicted to it by the genocidal regime, rehabilitating and advancing the national economy and culture, and building a new society in the difficult conditions of unslackening subversive activities waged and directed against it from outside.

The country today has over 60 factories which are major ones by local standards. Nearly all industrial facilities destroyed during the Pol Pot dictatorship have now been re-built.

Kampuchea's agriculture annually produces more than 1.5 million tons of rice, the nation's main food. The country has a network of roads and its capital is connected with all provincial centers and other important cities by telephone and telegraph links.

The system of state power, which has been set up in the country to express the interests of broadest sections of Kampuchean society, has continued to be upgraded. Its local agencies are active in all provinces.

Ignoring the reality, in such places far from Kampuchea as Washington and Beijing they have not given up attempts to destabilize the situation in the PRK.

There are, however, ample facts that prove that Kampuchea's development cannot be forced to take a direction contradicting the interests of the Kampuchean people. So it is high time all attempts to interfere in the domestic affairs of the Kampuchean people and decide their destiny for them were abandoned.

The resolution of the issue concerning Kampuchea depends in many ways on the restoration of a normal relationship and constructive, comradely dialogue between two neighbouring socialist countries, the People's Republic of China and the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Given good will, a constructive approach and a sober view of the present world, the so-called Kampuchean issue could have long been resolved.

The People's Republic of Kampuchea has a long way to go yet and will have to live through arduous tests but the Kampuchean revolution will be making steady headway. In this noble effort it has had and will continue to enjoy the solidarity of the Soviet Union, the fraternal countries of Indochina, other nations and the progressively-minded world public at large.

MISGIVINGS EXPRESSED OVER FRG PLUTONIUM PLAN

PM061533 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Jan 87 First Edition p 5

[B. Gorokhov article: "Who Needs Plutonium From Wackersdorf?"

[Text] There is continuing debate in the FRG over the government's nuclear policy. It was prompted by the news that a nuclear-fuel-processing enterprise is being constructed in the Bavarian hamlet of Wackersdorf. This, in principle, is a necessary thing, if the creation of this enterprise is indeed occasioned by the real needs of developing nuclear power.

But why, in that case, are passions becoming inflamed over the construction? Why are prominent FRG figures making concerned statements about this? The point is that nuclear fuel regeneration is, as it were, a gray area between the peaceful and military use of nuclear power. According to data from scientists of the Laser Technology Institute under the German Fraunhofer Society, the plutonium that will be obtained in Wackersdorf could be used to manufacture nuclear explosives, and in sufficient quantities to equip 500 units of nuclear weapons every year -- neither more nor less. The United States has already tested a device with just such a nuclear filling. According to W. Roth, deputy chairman of the Social Democratic Party of Germany's Bundestag faction, there are no economic arguments in favor of creating an enterprise to obtain plutonium in the FRG apart from reasons of a military nature.

It is precisely this that arouses fears, for none other than F.-J. Strauss, prime minister of Bavaria and chairman of the Christian Social Union, believes that "for sovereignty it is necessary to possess nuclear weapons." And he is not alone in his opinion. Suffice it to say that as long ago as the mid-seventies, a number of Christian Democratic Union and Christian Social Union ministers now in the present Bonn cabinet and then in the Bundestag actively opposed ratifying the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty because, they said, it blocked the way to the creation of a European nuclear force incorporating the FRG.

The Federal Government, which insists on constructing the enterprise in Wackersdorf, now repudiates with both hands those who ask a natural question: "Is Bonn not longing to have access to a nuclear button?" Official spokesmen declare that Wackersdorf's product is simply "unsuitable" for the production of nuclear weapons.

The FRG press draws attention to the fact that a greater quantity of plutonium than in any state that does not have nuclear weapons is already being kept under state protection in the (Alkem) power company's storehouses in the Hesse city of Hanau. In the opinion of West German parliamentarians, under certain conditions these stocks enable the Federal Government to "cover the greatest part of the road to nuclear armament without openly admitting that it is pursuing military goals."

So, as we see, it is certainly not a question of Bonn's ignorance of the fundamentals of nuclear physics. Let us assume, however, that the FRG Government really does not intend today to acquire "homemade" nuclear weapons. In that case what will happen to the West German plutonium? Perhaps it will go to Nevada or Mururoa, where, contrary to world public demands, nuclear explosions are continuing to thunder? For the FRG Government has virtually espoused the U.S., British, and French policy of continuing nuclear tests and dissociated itself from the prospect opened up in Reykjavik of the total elimination of nuclear weapons. How can one not recall here also Bonn's desire to gain access to the new kinds of arms being created [sozdavat], in particular, with the use of nuclear technology within the framework of the notorious SDI?

Nor can one help drawing a parallel with the facts, which have become public knowledge, of the FRG military-industrial complex' close cooperation with the racists of the Republic of South Africa. Where is the guarantee that, following the technical documentation for the construction of modern submarines with which a West German state concern provided the Pretoria regime, the Republic of South Africa will not obtain plutonium for the production of nuclear weapons in the same way?!

The world public must receive a clear answer to all these questions.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON RYZHKOV VISIT TO HELSINKI

Talks With Koivisto

LD062036 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1947 GMT 6 Jan 87

[Text] Helsinki, 6 Jan (TASS) -- Talks took place today between Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Mauno Koivisto, president of the Finnish Republic. An exchange of opinions on a broad range of questions of Soviet-Finnish relations and their prospects, and on key problems of the international situation, took place in the traditional atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

N. Ryzhkov and M. Koivisto stated with satisfaction that the trust and equal partnership embodied in the 1948 treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance remain constant factors in the stable and on-going development of relations between the USSR and Finland.

The sides stressed the prime significance of the fruitful political dialogue between the leaders of the two countries, an effective stimulus to which was given by the meeting between Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and President Mauno Koivisto. On behalf of the Soviet leadership, Nikolay Ryzhkov conveyed an invitation to President Mauno Koivisto to pay an official visit to the USSR. Mauno Koivisto confirmed the invitation to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to pay an official visit to Finland.

In the exchange of opinions on issues of Soviet-Finnish cooperation, N. Ryzhkov and M. Koivisto stressed the need for a more effective use of such progressive forms as industrial, scientific, and technological coordination and the setting-up of joint enterprises. Importance was attached to implementing the large-scale tasks set out by the long-term program for the development and deepening of trade and economic, industrial, scientific and technological cooperation, in effect until 1995, and the role of the permanent intergovernmental Soviet-Finnish commission for economic cooperation was noted.

The sides greeted the accord achieved on the development of cooperation between the USSR and Finland on the peaceful use of space, and immediate notification in the event of accidents at atomic power stations.

During the discussion of international topics, the identical or close approach of both sides to the most acute issue of the modern day was confirmed: a halt to the arms race, and above all the nuclear arms race, the banning of nuclear weapons tests, and the impermissibility of the militarization of space. [paragraph continues]

The sides came out for the need to strengthen the interaction of all countries and people in the struggle to free mankind from the threat of nuclear annihilation. M. Koivisto spoke highly of the initiative and constructive work of the Soviet Union to strengthen peace and for disarmament and international cooperation. He welcomed the program for the complete elimination of nuclear and other forms of mass destruction weaponry by the end of this century put forward by the Soviet Union.

Expressing profound concern over the lack of real results in resolving the primary issues of disarmament on the basis of the positions achieved at Reykjavik, the sides at the same time expressed confidence that there remain opportunities to halt the dangerous development of events. For this it is necessary to use the paths to a nonnuclear world that were opened up in Reykjavik, and to implement the idea of a comprehensive system of international security. A new mentality which, in particular, was reflected in the Delhi declaration on the principles of a nonviolent world free from nuclear weapons.

N. Ryzhkov informed M. Koivisto of the motives behind the decision of the Soviet Union to break off its unilateral moratorium on nuclear blasts after the first U.S. nuclear explosion of 1987, stressing that this was a forced step dictated exclusively by the interests of security. The USSR expresses its readiness to return to a moratorium at any time if the United States ceases its nuclear tests. M. Koivisto displayed understanding of the position of the Soviet Union, noting that Finland favors an immediate halt to all nuclear tests and the speediest possible conclusion of an agreement to ban them completely.

In the context of the discussion of European issues, the desire of the Soviet Union and Finland to continue the efforts aimed at consolidating peace and stability in north Europe was confirmed. In this connection, the important significance of the implementation of Finland's proposal on the creation of a nonnuclear zone in northern Europe and on confidence-building steps applicable to that region was noted. Mauno Koivisto spoke highly of the new steps of the Soviet Union in that direction, announced in November 1986.

The talks passed in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding.

Koivisto Dinner Speech

LD062005 Moscow TASS in English 1844 GMT 6 Jan 87

[Text] Helsinki January 6 TASS -- (From TASS special correspndents):

"Relations between Finland and the Soviet Union are such a factor of international life which is immune to changes and instability. These relations not only meet the interests of our two peoples but also have a stabilising effect on a broader international plane," stated President Mauno Koivisto of the Republic of Finland.

He made a speech today at a dinner given in honour of Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, who had arrived here on an official visit.

"Cooperation between Finland and the Soviet Union has become a natural and integral part of the life of our two peoples which we highly value and which we are prepared to safeguard as well as to develop in future as well," Mauno Koivisto emphasized.

"Following the extension of the 1948 Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in 1983, the development of our two countries' relations has become guaranteed for a long period ahead. This continuity is of great importance in the world in which the atmosphere can rapidly change and in which international cooperation now always proceeds in a desired manner."

"Some problems of our reciprocal trade, the problems which have arisen owing to causes which do not depend on us, have moved to the fore in our practical relations of late," the president of Finland went on to say.

He pointed out with great satisfaction that, notwithstanding difficulties, reciprocal trade developed beneficially to both countries.

"We strive to keep the volume of trade turnover at the highest level. A protocol on trade and payments for 1987, which is to be signed tomorrow, reflects well these aspirations of ours".

"Your visit is being made at an interesting moment of international politics", Mauno Koivisto said. "The entire disarmament process is at a turning point. Prospects, which opened up as a result of the summit meeting in Reykjavik, show that there are real opportunities for a deep reduction in and even elimination of the existing systems of nuclear weapons."

"Great hopes are being set on the talks on nuclear and space arms, the talks which are to be resumed in Geneva in the middle of the month".

"We hope that results will be achieved at the talks as quickly as possible. We also hope that it will be possible to start talks on reducing arms in the region stretching from the Atlantic to the Urals, the talks which are important from the viewpoint of European security, in the near future."

"It is regrettable that the Soviet Union's unilateral moratorium on nuclear explosions has not resulted in a full ban on nuclear tests. At the same time we paid attention to the readiness expressed by the Soviet Union to start talks on banning nuclear tests. Finland, for its part, seeks to promote a total ban on nuclear tests, through participation in the development of seismic monitoring systems, in particular".

"The Soviet Union's announcements about new steps and proposals, which are illustrative of your country's readiness to promote, for its part, the establishment of a nuclear-free zone in the north of Europe by concrete measures, have been welcomed in Finland."

"The process ushered in by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe has become a constant positive factor contributing to strengthening security and mutual cooperation between the CSCE participating countries."

"To Finland, the CSCE process is important already because it enables us to participate in exchanges of opinions to decision making on the issues of European security and thus, of our own security," said the Finnish president.

Ryzhkov Reply Speech

LD062347 Moscow TASS in English 2225 GMT 6 Jan 87

[Text] Helsinki January 6 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, now on an official visit here, made a speech at a dinner held in his honour by the President of Finland Mauno Koivisto. He said:

"First of all I should like to express sincere gratitude for the welcome and hospitality accorded to us in the capital of our northern neighbour, the Republic of Finland. We regard this as a manifestation of respect for the Soviet Union and its people on the part of the leadershio and public of Finland.

In our fast-moving age, in the complicated international situation, contacts and close ties between states, and especially between neighbours, have become, more than ever before, a primary political need. To lay down guidelines for cooperation, bring out common approaches to the key problems of the time, to compare plans for practical actions in order to solve them -- all this is especially important at a time when Europe and the entire world have found themselves at a crucial historical crossroads, when every state is required to formulate its position on the vitally important global issue of preserving and strengthening peace.

It is with this thought in mind that we began today our visit to friendly Finland, after gratefully accepting an invitation from its president and government. A visit which is a continuation of the good and time-tested practice of a dialogue between the leaderships of the two states, a practice which was given a great impetus by the Moscow meeting between General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev and President Mauno Koivisto in September, 1985.

What we regard as a salient feature of the new Soviet-Finnish meeting is the fact that it ushers in, as it were, a year of jubilee events of great historical and political significance for our countries.

Good-neighbourly relations betwen the USSR and the Republic of Finland were started by the decree, signed by Vladimir Ilich Lenin on December 31, 1917, on the recognition of the independence of Finland as a state, a decree embodying a living connection between the Great October Socialist Revoluktion and the birth of an independent Finnish state.

Following Lenin's behests, the Soviet Union invariably proceeds from the need to strengthen in every way mutual trust with Finland. It is on this basis that a turn, an irreversible one, was made by joint efforts in relations between our countries in the post-war period. The 1948 Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Mutual Assistance, which has been retaining its political importance and viability for almost four decades now and which was prolonged to the beginning of next century, has become a concentrated expression of trust between the two countries.

Our frontier with Finland is today a frontier of peace and good-neighbourliness and we have mutual understanding on a wide range of international problems, to say nothing of questions of our bilateral relations. All this rests on a sound foundation, that of trust in each other's policy. Our today's talks with President Mauno Koivisto confirmed that the leadership of Finland understands well Soviet foreign policy, just as we understand the policy of Finland. And if there is something we do not fully understand we quickly find a way to clarify a problem. Needless to say how important this is in inter-state relations.

I will say directly: The Soviet leadership, our people, have great trust in the foreign policy line of the Finnish leadership and see that it is directed at continuing the policy of friendship with our country, ensuring the stability of the principled course, to the formulation and consolidation of which your outstanding predecessor Urho Kekkonen made such a great contribution. This time-tested foreign policy of Finland enjoys a well-deserved prestige in the world arena.

For their part the people of Finland can be confident that relations with friendly Finland will remain one of the priority directions of the Soviet state's European policy.

I must also say that in Soviet-Finnish relations mutual trust is not a prerogative of the leaderships of the two countries. A consistent observance by the two sides of the principles of equality, respect for sovereignty, non-interference, a considerate attitude to each other's concerns and interests and broadening of human contacts have all resulted in the fact that confidence has begun to determine today, in growing measure, the attitude of our peoples to each other. In the final count, this is the main thing.

The solid foundation of mutual confidence also determines the prospects of Soviet-Finnish relations. Our present and future successes in economic cooperation and in the search for new forms of cooperation are inseparable from it. Shortly before our visit Soviet organisations and Finnish firms started a new line of cooperation by beginning work on designing a number of joint enterprises. And we set great store by the fact that in this matter we have appropriate mutual understanding with the Government of Finland and personally the prime minister, Mr. Kalevi Sorsa.

No doubt it would be hard to imagine without growing mutual trust the level of contacts we have reached in the cultural and other fields, contacts of great importance for bringing our two peoples closer together. Also developing on this basis is our political dialogue in the interests of peace, detente and disarmament.

Soviet-Finnish relations convincingly demonstrate the advantages and prospects of the policy of peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems.

It must be noted that the Soviet Union and Finland are not just following a path once beaten. Our countries, actively and constantly developing and enriching political, economic, scientific, technical and cultural ties and humanitarian contacts between them, are widening the framework of policy of peaceful coexistence, lend it a new quality and set an example in carrying out accords recorded in the Helsinki Final Act. Now, too, we are looking for new forms of cooperation, forms most promising in view of the requirements of the present stage of the scientific and technical revolution.

We are not going, of course, to absolutise the model of Soviet-Finnish relations. But one cannot fail to see that the principles underlying our cooperation and its successes assume special significance today when attempts are made in certain countries to call in question the very possibility of peaceful, equitable relations between states, to toughen the line for confrontation and for undermining international confidence.

The past year was full of big events in world politics and keen struggle between political forces of opposite trends.

Peace and detente, disarmament and development and assertion of new principles in the mentality and life of the world community have been and remain the keystone of Soviet foreign policy. [paragraph continues]

The concept of creating a nuclear-free world, put forward in a statement by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee M.S. Gorbachev on January 15, 1986, opened a new chapter in the struggle for the survival of mankind. During the year that followed the philosophy of new political thinking, as expressed in that statement, began to materialise in international relations, in practical politics. One example of this is the Delhi declaration signed by the leaders of the USSR and India in November last year.

The concept of an all-embracing international security system, advanced by the 27th Congress of the CPSU, aimed to block all channels for the rise of tensions in international relations and to ensure favourable conditions for the peaceful cooperation of all peoples. Supported by the majority of U.N. member states, this concept now lives and works.

The Soviet-American meeting in Reykjavik undoubtedly became a new historical landmark in the struggle against the nuclear and space threat. Although some people in the West would like very much to pretend that there was no Reykjavik, no accords reached there it is clear that there can be no return to the old situation in the world. It is only from the heights marked by this historic meeting that the key problem of disarmament can now be tackled.

Among the notable landmarks of the past years was the successful conclusion of the Stockholm conference. It convincingly demonstrated the viability of the all-European process started here in Helsinki. Now it is important that the Vienna meeting further speed up this process and push it ahead in all directions.

The Soviet Union believes that it is necessary to go over, without wasting time, to considering questions of disarmament on the continent, including reduction of arms forces and conventional armaments from the Atlantic to the Urals, as was suggested by the states of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation.

Large-scale economic and ecological problems are awaiting their solution, and here we note with satisfaction Finland's activity in this field. Closer and broader cooperation in the humanitarian field should also serve to strengthen moral guarantees of preserving peace. Our proposal for holding in Moscow a representative conference on the entire package of humanitarian problems is oriented precisely towards such cooperation.

Peace and security in Europe, and elsewhere in the world, are indivisible and interconnected. Therefore the Soviet Union comes out for the preservation of stability in the north of Europe and supports Finland's proposals for establishing a nuclear-free zone in the region and for carrying out far-reaching confidence-building measures there and on the adjoining seas. The Soviet Union not only supports but, as is known, takes concrete steps in this direction.

Soviet-Finnish cooperation has always been and remains clearly oriented towards peace and detente. Our countries share a high sense of responsibility and a common desire to work for achieving these aims. And this is a promising basis by relying on which we shall actively work further.

To the further consolidation of friendship, confidence and cooperation between the Soviet Union and Finland!

To the health of the President of the Republic of Finland Mauno Koivisto and Mrs. Tellervo Koivisto!

We wish prosperity to the friendly people of Finland in conditions of a stable peace and progress!

CPSU REPRIMANDS HEALTH MINISTRY, SECTOR AIDES

PM061920 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "At the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee: On Serious Shortcomings in the Work of Leaders of Certain Ministries, Construction Organizations, and Local Party and Soviet Organs in the Construction of Health Care Facilities Built Using Resources Produced by All-Union Communist Subbotniks"]

[Text] An investigation carried out in a number of oblasts and union republics has established that the leaders of certain ministries, construction organizations, and local party and soviet organs showed a formal attitude toward the fulfillment of the CPSU Central Committee's instructions on the unconditional assimilation of resources earned by all-union communist subbotniks [unpaid voluntary Saturday work] and allocated to the constructon of health care and sanatorium-spa institutions.

Out of R1 billion of capital investments, allocated for these purposes in the 11th 5-Year Plan more than R222 million were not assimilated and 12,200 hospital beds and outpatient facilities with a capacity to receive 7,200 people per shift were not commissioned.

Nor was there any perceptible restructuring in the construction of the aformentioned facilities in 1986; only 57 percent of the planned resources were assimiliated in the first 9 months and the commissioning plan was only 30 percent fulfilled.

The construction of those facilities is proceeding particularly badly in the Uzbek, Kirghiz, Tajik, and Kazakh SSRs and many autonomous republics, krays, and oblasts in the RSFSR have also failed to cope with the hospital commissioning targets.

This situation resulted from an incorrect attitude toward the construction sites in question on the part of leaders of construction contract organizations, local soviets, and the relevant ministries and departments and from some workers' diminished sense of responsibility for ensuring the correct use of the resources allocated and the priority commissioning of those facilities.

The necessary exactingness has not been shown toward workers of subordinate organizations for ensuring the fulfillment of the targets for the construction of health care facilities by the leadership of the Ministry of Construction in Northern and Western Regions of the USSR. For example, for many years contract organizations of that ministry's Main Administration for Construction in Volga-Vyatka (whose chief is Comrade V.A. Martovskiy) have failed to assimilate the capital investments allocated for those purposes and have constantly failed to meet deadlines for the commissioning of health care institutions. There is a similar situation at the Main Administration for Construction in Ivanovo (whose chief is Comrade V.I. Gridasov). It failed to commission three treatment institutions due to go into operation in the first half or the third quarter of last year. Only 3-5 percent of the capital investments planned for other facilities have been assimilated. In Ivanovo City the oblast oncological clinic was commissioned even though construction work was incomplete.

The necessary measures have not been taken to ensure the unconditional assimilation of resources intended for the construction of treatment institutiosn by the Uzbek SSR Ministry of Construction (minister -- Comrade A.G. Manannikov). At certain construction sites in the republic no more than 50 percent of resources were utilized in the first 10 months of 1986.

An Ivanovo Oblispolkom (first deputy chairman -- Comrade S.V. Kuznetsov), Kirov Oblispolkom (first deputy chairman -- Comrade Yu.I. Derevskoy), and Kaluga Oblispolkom (deputy chairman -- Comrade N.I. Almazov) have assessed uncritically the situation at construction projects being built from the proceeds of communist subbotniks and have tolerated instances of the unjustified deferment of commissioning deadlines, the late supply of planning and estimate documents and provision of technological and medical equipment, and violations of state discipline during the acceptance of facilities for commissioning.

Some leaders of the AUCCTU and republic, kray, an oblast trade union councils have not been properly monitoring the use of the proceeds from communist subbotniks intended for the construction of new health-care institutions and the consolidation of the material and technical base of existing ones, as well as for the construction or modernization of sanatoriums and rest homes and centers financed from the aforementioned resources.

The USSR Health Ministry is not systematically monitoring progress in the construction of establishments being built from the proceeds of communist subbotniks, is planning them unsatisfactorily, and is failing to supply medical equipment on time.

Construction site party organizations are guilty of grave shortcomings in the organization of competition at these facilities and are failing to be rigorously exacting to ensure that they are commissioned on time and that work is carried out to a high standard.

Leaders of a number of party committees have not drawn the necessary conclusions from the CPSU Central Committee decisions and the 27th party congress directives on the need to increase the attention paid to questions in the social sphere and are tolerating the fact that the commissioning deadlines for many health facilities are not met, which does great political and moral harm to the cause.

The CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee has severely reprimanded Comrade V.A. Martovskiy, CPSU member and chief of the Main Administration for Construction in the Volga-Vyatka Region, with endorsement of his record card, and reprimanded Comrade V.I. Gridasov, CPSU member and chief of the Main Administration for Construction in Ivanovo, with endorsement of his report card for displaying an irresponsible attitude to the construction of health-care facilities built from the proceeds of all-union communist subbotniks and for failing to adopt measures to concentrate manpower and material resources on those construction projects.

Note was taken of a statement by Comrade V.I. Reshetilov, minister of construction in the northern and western regions of the USSR, that the ministry will draw serious conclusions from the discussion of the question at the CPSU Central Committee People's Control Committee and that the requisite measures will be taken to eliminate shortcomings in the organization of the construction of health-care facilities built from the proceeds of all-union communist subbotniks, to radically improve the state of affairs on those construction sites, and to observe their commissioning deadlines.

Comrade A.G. Manannikov, CPSU member and Uzbek SSR construction minister, was censured for failing to adopt the necessary measures to eliminate shortcomings in the construction of treatment establishments.

The CPSU Central Committee People's Control Committee severely censured the following CPSU members -- Comrade S.V. Kuznetsov, first deputy chairman of Ivanovo Oblispolkom: Comrade Yu.I. Derevskoy, first deputy chairman of of Kirov Oblispolkom; and Comrade N.I. Almazov, deputy chairman of Kaluga Oblispolkom -- for lax monitoring of the construction of health-care establishments built from the proceeds of all-union communist subbotniks and insufficient exactingness toward leaders of subcontracting organizations in regard to fulfillment of targets on those sites.

Ivanovo CPSU Obkom has been instructed to examine the question of the accountability of the communist-leaders who accepted the commissioning of the oblast ocological clinic even though construction was incomplete.

The attention of Comrade I.N. Dmitriyev, deputy chairman of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, has been drawn to the republic's low level of assimilation of the proceeds from all-union communist subbotniks and intended for the construction of health-care facilities. Note was taken of his statement that the RSFSR Council of Ministers will take measures to ensure the priority construction and commissioning of these facilities and to ensure the fulfillment of the set targets for the assimilation of the resources allocated.

The CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee took note of the statement by Comrade V.G. Lomonosov, deputy chairman of the AUCCTU, and Comrade O.P. Shchepin, USSR first deputy minister of health, that trade union councils and the ministry will step up the monitoring of the use of communist subbotnik proceeds earmarked for the construction for health-care facilities and will take additional measures to ensure the unconditional fulfillment of plans for the construction of treatment institutions, sanatorium-spa complexes, and rest centers and also to improve the planning of these facilities and provide them with the necessary equipment.

POLITBURO EXAMINES RESTRUCTURING OF EDUCATION

LD061911 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1757 GMT 6 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow, 6 Jan (TASS) -- Today the CPSU Central Committee Politburo examined proposals connected with the implementation of the restructuring of higher and secondary specialized education, worked out in accordance with the directives of the 27th CPSU Congress.

In the documents that have been examined, measures are drawn up to enhance substantially the quality of training and utilization in the national economy of specialists with higher education. In connection with this it is envisaged that the educational and upbringing process will be radically restructured, that a transition will be made to training broad profile specialists on the basis of mastering fundamental scientific and professional knowledge and of active cooperative with relevant enterprises, associations and organizations. It is planned to create a new organizational-economic mechanism of interaction between higher educational establishments and branches of the national economy, the basis of which is a specific training and retraining of personnel according to agreements which provide for a partial compensation of expenditure on these purposes through branches of material production.

The Politburo stressed that the decisive premise for intensifying the effectiveness of the teaching and education of future experts will be an improvement in the selection, placing and raising of the qualifications of scientific-pedagogical and scientific cadres.

What is envisaged is the restructuring of the work of postgraduate study as an important step in post-higher educational education. On the basis of the leading higher educational establishments and scientific institutions, doctoral study [doktorantura] will be organized. It is intended to introduce a new system of attestation for scientific-pedagogical workers, to create more favorable conditions to attract major experts in the national economy and leading scientists to pedagogical work in higher educational establishments.

The ways of intensifying the role of the science of higher eduational establishments in accelerating scientific-technological progress and improving the quality of training of experts who command the new technology have been determined. It is planned to secure in higher educational establishments, and primarily the universities, the rapid development of fundamental research, to increase by three or four times the volume of experimental-design and experimental work, and on the basis of this to achieve a growth in the scale, and a reduction in the times, of the introduction of the results of scientific developments [razrabotka].

Measures are being drafted to further improve the material and domestic living conditions of higher educational staff, postgraduate students, and college students.

Having basically approved the documents relating to restructuring the work of higher education, the Politburo made it incumbent upon the appropriate organizations to continue work on them, bearing in mind further improvement in planning of the training of specialists, raising the level of technical equipment for the sciences in higher educational institutes, and the participation of ministries, departments, associations, and enterprises in this important work. The Politburo discussed and endorsed a program of measures for the implementation of proposals made at a working meeting held in Moscow of leaders of communist and workers' parties of the CEMA member countries.

Having reviewed the results of the talks between Comrade N.I. Ryzhkov and G. Lazar, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic the Politburo noted that the raising of the effectiveness of Soviet-Hungarian cooperation, and modernizing it on the basis of deepened specialization and the broader use of new and progressive forms of cooperation in production and in the scientific and technical area, should facilitate the successful solution to tasks of speeding up the social and economic development of the USSR and the Hungarian People's Republic. The meeting of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo discussed certain other questions of economic construction, ideological work and also foreign political activity aimed at reducing international tension and developing equal cooperation and mutually advantageous relations with all countries.

VOSS DISCUSSES NATIONALITIES POLICY

LD031316 Moscow in English to North America 2300 GMT 2 Jan 87

["The Soviet Union Looking to the Third Millenium" program, hosted by Yuriy Reshetnikov; statements by Avgust Voss and Natalya Gellert in Russian with superimposed English translation throughout]

[Excerpts] [Reshetnikov] At the turn of the year, 30th December marked 64 years since four Soviet republics joined in a union to form what is now the USSR, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. [passage omitted containing historal background] The motley fabric of the union when it was formed did not, however, make for an easy solution of the nationalities problem.

Indeed, how do you blend the interests of different ethnic groups, large and small, speaking their own tongues and having their distinct cultures? The problem was compounded by years of the official tsarist policy of the Russian domination of smaller nationalities which made these people suspicious of any ties with what they regarded as the master race. The 1917 socialist revolution in Russian among one of its more important measures [as heard], granted full equality to the country's ethnic groups regardless of their racial, cultural, or economic background.

Unless backed up by deeds, however, equality might have remained a hollow promise. The financially strapped country had to devise ways to funnel development funds to the backward areas on a priority basis. [passage omitted]

The USSR is a kind of mosaic of nations, sharing common political and social attitudes. In a country with one large ethnic group, such as the Russians, who make up the majority of the population, it would be natural to expect other minority groups to be swamped culturally, to expect the country to be something of a melting pot. But this has not been the case in the Soviet Union, however. Explains Avgust Voss, the chairman of the Nationalities Chamber of the USSR parliament -- he himself is a delegate from the republic of Latvia, one of the 15 constituent republics:

In the first few years of Soviet Government books were printed in 20 languages spoken in the country. Today, Soviet literature comes out in almost 80 languages. This is a simple example which makes one stop and think: Wait a minute! Does this mean that so many peoples were without a written language of their own or were previously denied the use of their written language and literature? Actually, some 50 smaller nationalities did for the first time acquire alphabets in Soviet times. Previously they had been able to communicate by word of mouth only.

Take Uzbekistan: Centuries ago its people produced some of the world's finest talent in sciences and education. Just before the 1917 socialist revolution this nationality had been reduced through authoritarian tsarist rule to almost total illiteracy. Only 3 percent of the Uzbeks could read and write at the time. The situation was even worse in the other Central Asian nations. Presently, in all of those republics, there is universal secondary school education which is conducted in the local language, and scores of colleges and universities have sprung up, said Avgust Voss.

Avgust Voss himself comes from a republic which joined the union in 1940 by a decision of its National Assembly. Like each Soviet constituent repubic, Latvia retains its specific political rights within the union, including the right to secede for it. Each of the republics is a sovereign state which, however, rather than exist separately, has chosen to be constituent part of a large entity. Now, how is this sovereignty of the union republics backed up? Avgust Voss explains that:

Each of the republics has its own constitution, its legislative bodies and government, Avgust Voss is saying. Each republic has its own economic and social development plan, its budget. It has its own judicial authorities, its own flag and emblem. As a sovereign state, Latvia, for example, has the right to enter into relations with other countries and take part in international organizations. It has numerous economic ties with other countries. However, the Soviet economy is not a sum total of the economies of the constitutent republics. It works in harmony as a single economic mechanism. Together, Soviet republics account for one-fifth of the world's industrial output.

[Reshetnikov] Latvia is a relatively small republic by comparison with the Russian Federation or the Ukraine. How are the rights of smaller nations within the union ensured?

[Voss] Indeed, there are many small nations and nationalities in the Soviet Union. All the union republics, regardless of their population size and economic potential, enjoy equal rights, Avgust Voss is saying. Each union republic elects 32 deputies to the Chamber of Nationalities, one of the two chambers of the parliament. The other chamber, which sees to the interests of the union as a whole, is made up of locally elected deputies in proportion to the population of each of the republics. The presidium of the Soviet parliament, which is the top-standing legislative body between parliament's sessions, has equal representation from each of the constituent republics. This system of checks and balances integrates the interests of each republic with those of the union as a whole.

[Reshetnikov] Like any multinational country, however, the Soviet Union is not immune to problems of nationalism. As the Soviet Leader, Mikhail Gorbachev, noted out achievements should not create the impression that there are no problems in this field because a tendency towards national isolation and local interests still persists and makes itself felt quite painfully at times. A case in point was the recent nationalistic outburst in the Kazakh capital of Alma-Ata where rampaging youths, goaded by nationalistic elements, caused a minor disruption of public order. Public rallies subsequently condemned these disorders and those who were behind them. Disorders such as these, however, are treated as extraordinary events. It is precisely for this reason that they caused such a stir in the country and made headlines in the world press.

Incidentally, Kazakhstan, one of the largest union republics -- about the size of all of Western Europe -- before the 1917 socialist revolution was perhaps the most backward land in the country, sparsely populated by nomadic tribes. Today, the republic is the country's major bread basket, with advanced industrial potential. One measure of its scientific advance is the sprawling space center at Baykonur, which is the home base of all Soviet manned space missions. Kazakhstan itself is also a mosaic of numerous nationalities and ethnic groups.

Natalya Gellert, uncharacteristically for a woman, is a tractor driver. She is also an ethnic German. There are over a million Germans living in this country, mostly in Kazakhstan. This is what she told the Communist Party congress last February:

Our multinational republic is sometimes called a planet of a hundred tons. The Kazakh steppelands in a way molded our way of life, molded the characteristic features of the people, Natalya Gellert is saying. In her own family they speak three languages -- German, Russian, and Kazakh. Her husband is an ethnic Kazakh and there are many families like that living side by side in this country, Natalya Gellert concluded.

If there is one lesson to be drawn form the events in Alma-Ata it is that while some problems in ethnic relations are solved others may emerge. This is true of any multinational country's development, all the more so with regard to national relations among people who were for centuries divided by deep cultural and religious rifts.

The father of this state, Lenin, in his time warned against what he called petty bureaucratic meddling in purely local problems, which is one of the greatest impediments to economic and political development in general and to the principle of central government in particular. Each union republic's contribution toward a common cause will be the greatest, he said, when it can display its creative potential to the best advantage.

SILAYEV ATTENDS MACHINE BUILDERS TU CONGRESS

PM061451 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Jan 87 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Work Completed"]

[Text] Successful implementation of the party's economic strategy is inconceivable without the intensive development of machine building. This sector, which determines the rate of scientific and technical progress, must be in the forefront of the restructuring process. This was discussed by delegates at the Third Congress of the Machine Builders' and Instrument Makers' Trade Union. It completed its work in Moscow on 5 January.

The congress determined ways of restructuring the activity of the machine building and instrument making sectors taking present demands into account.

I.S. Silayev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, S.A. Shalayev, AUCCTU chairman; A.I. Volskiy, chief of the CPSU Central Committee Machine Building Section; the leaders of a number of USSR ministries and departments; and senior CPSU Central Committee officials participated in the congress' work.

FURTHER ON KOLBIN MEETING WITH WRITERS

PM061457 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 1 Jan 87 pp 1, 3

[KAZTAG report: "Writers' High Calling"]

[Text] In the struggle for a new quality of life in Soviet society launched under the leadership of Lenin's party and important role is to be played by literature and art, whose importance in stepping up the human factor it is difficult to overestimate. This was the dominate idea at a 31 December meeting between republic writers and G.V. Kolbin, first secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee.

O.O. Suleymenov, first secretary of the Kazakh Writers' Union Board, and writers Dzh. Muldagaliyev, Kh. Yergaliyev, I. Shchegolikhin, T.1 Akhtanov, and B. Momysh-Uly noted the long-standing patriotic and international traditions of Kazakhstan's multilingual literature and its constant and durable ties with fraternal republics. Prose writers, poets, dramatists, critics, and current affairs writers have played an active part in all stages of socialist building and are engaged today in work that reflect the problems of the present crucial period.

G.V. Kolbin addressed the meeting. Writers have reached an important new creative frontier, he said, a frontier mapped out at the CPSU Central Committee April (1985) plenum and the 27th party congress. That is why it is essential that everyone become more aware of his responsibility for the spiritual climate of society and the effect of literature on the reader, particularly the young reader. People expect books to reveal vividly, truthfully, and convincingly the characteristics of contemporary man, the advantages of the Soviet way of life, and the strength of socialist morality and of the friendship and mutual aid shown by all the country's nations and ethnic groups.

Since restructuring's inception it has become more interesting and attractive for writers to create and fight for the truth of life. [paragraph continues]

Books are needed which are in tune with the spirit of the times and which arouse the conscience and a sense of intolerance toward negative phenomena, inertia, and indifference.

Kazakhstan has a large group of writers working in the Kazakh, Russian, Uighur, German, and Korean languages. This great strength must serve to imbue the young generation with a responsible attitude to civic duties, rational needs, and high esthetic sense. Writers' contribution to involving young men and girls in sustained enterprising work must become more substantial.

In criticizing what is obsolete and exposing phenomena of stagnation the writer must always remember the lessons of truth taught by the party and assess on their merits the fine, sensible and honest things that occur in life and in the practice of restructuring. The republic Writers' Union has no right to tolerate grayness and narrow-mindedness in literature. Here much is determined by the development of criticism and self-criticism. Only by force of talent, moral example, and the intellectual and emotional richness of his works does a writer gain popularity and authority. It is essential to establish in every possible way principledness and openness in the work of the Writers' Union work and collective discussion of manuscripts recommended for publication.

The meeting noted that the republic's writers, like all people active in the cultural world, are drawing the correct conclusions from the recent events in Alma-Ata provoked by nationalist elements. By means of their creativity they will help strengthen patriotic and international education and struggle to ensure that the ideas of friendship and the fraternity of the peoples are highly effective.

Stress was placed on the importance of further strengthening ties between writers and labor and educational collectives and of writers' direct involvement in the explanation of the CPSU's domestic and foreign policy and in support through current affairs writing for valuable undertakings and initiatives directed at resolving problems like housing and food and ensuring the correct use of manpower and a just distribution of material goods. It is essential that there be closer creative cooperation with outstanding exponents of screen and stage and other art forms.

Z.K. Kamalidenov, secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee, and K.S. Smailov, chief of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee Culture Section, took part in the meeting.

EDUCATION REFORM DISCUSSED AT KAZAKH UNIVERSITY

PM071145 Alma-Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 27 Dec 86 p 3

[KAZTAG report: "Meeting at Kazakh State University"]

[Text] Work on implementing the reform of higher education and restructuring the ideological, moral, international, and patriotic education of future specialists is being done at the Kazakh S.M. Kirov State University. Specific ways to further activate it were discussed at a 26 December meeting of the university's party and Komsomol aktiv and professorial and teaching staff with Z.K. Kamalidenov, secretary of the Kazakh Communist Party Central Committee.

It was emphasized at the meeting that it is necessary to radically improve the teaching and educational process and get through to every student. [paragraph continues]

The university's young people must daily strengthen the friendship and fraternity of the peoples, more profoundly master knowledge in close connection with practice, always adhere to an active civic stance, and prepare themselves for persistent, enterprising work and creativity in the name of successfully resolving the tasks advanced by the 27th CPSU Congress of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development.

MARCHUK URGES SPEEDY DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNOLOGY

LD061635 Moscow TASS in English 1422 GMT 6 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 6 TASS -- Development of resource-saving and highly productive technologies should become the mainstay of the Soviet scientific and technical policy. This is the conviction of Guriy Marchuk, the new president of the USSR Academy of Sciences.

"Giving adequate attention to fundamental science, we should support in every way and develop explorations, thanks to which it is possible in the shortest period to create new, highly efficient technologies and to introduce them vigorously in the national economy," he said, describing to journalists the participation of scientists in tackling economic issues in the USSR.

Guriy Marchuk favoured the speediest movement along the line from fundamental investigations to applied ones and from the latter -- to test and design studies and introduction of new technologies in production.

Soviet science and economy have impressive achievements, Marchuk went on to say. Today the rate of advance is hampered not due to the lack of promising development sutdies but due to their slow mass introduction. Therefore, says the president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, top priority should be given to improvement of planning and management at all stages of the "science-production" cycle.

Speaking of the main directions in the development of Soviet science in the 12th Five-Year Plan (1986-90), Marchuk said in conclusion that priority would be given to expanding research in molecular biology, genetics, computer and robot facilities, laser and cryogenic machinery, nuclear and thermonuclear engineering, immunology and medicine.

KIRGHIZ CP LEADERS ADDRESS VUZ MEETINGS

PM071035 Frunze SOVETSKAYA KIRGIZIYA in Russian 30 Dec 86 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Fostering Patriots and Internationalists"]

[Text] A meeting was held 29 December between A.M. Masaliyev, first secretary of the Kirghiz Communist Party Central Committee, and the professorial and lecturing staff and students of the Kirghiz State University named for the 50th Anniversary of the USSR.

The accelerated development of the country's integrated national economic complex outlined by the 27th CPSU Congress, the meeting stressed, depends on the contribution of every union republic. The Kirghiz SSR did score certain achievements in the 1st year of the 12th 5-Year Plan in resolving this task. However, not all plans were met in full, nor were all reserves for acceleration brought into operation.

Serious tasks remain in further improving political, educational, and ideological work. Efforts here have not so far always been successful in reaching their goal.

There are quite a few shortcomings on this score at the Kirghiz State University -- the republic's premier higher education establishment. The closest attention must be paid to the international and patriotic education of young men and women and to the formation in them of feelings of respect and friendship for all the country's nations and ethnic groups and of love for their great Soviet motherland. Every lecture and conversation and every student event must be geared to this end. The tasks of the communist education of young people must be resolved by concerted efforts on the part of the rectorate and party, trade union, and Komsomol organizations, which must persistently seek to remove formalism from this work.

Questions of strengthening discipline and organization, enhancing the quality of the educational process, and intensifying patriotic and international education were discussed 29 December at a meeting between G.N. Kiselev, second secretary of the Kirghiz Communist Party Central Committee, and lecturers and students at the Frunze Polytechnic named for the 60th Anniversary of the USSR.

Special attention was paid to restructuring educational and training work on the basis of the reform of higher and secondary education and to problems of finding new forms of vital contact with young people. Polytechnic leaders and representatives of party, trade union, and Komsomol organizations must pay regular visits to the student hostel, take a deep interest in students' requirements, and understand their needs.

The meeting pointed out the need to ensure the widest and most active involvement of young people in sociopolitical and working life.

DER SPIEGEL INTERVIEWS SAKHAROV, BONNER

DW070921 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 5 Jan 87 pp 96-102

[Interview with Andrey Sakharov and Yelena Bonner by DER SPIEGEL correspondent Andreas Lorenz in Moscow; no date given]

[Text] SPIEGEL: Andrey Dmitriyevich, how do you feel being in Moscow?

Sakharov: Certainly much better than in the hospital in Gorkiy. That hospital had become a prison for me. All entrances were watched over by KGB guards. I was in the hands of doctors who did not act independently.

SPIEGEL: What have you done since your return to Moscow?

Sakharov: I have taken part in two seminars at the Lebedev Institute. There has been no time for other things. Correspondents from the Western mass media have monopolized my time. Even my suitcase is not yet unpacked.

SPIEGEL: Those were seminars...

Sakharov: About theoretical physics. The first seminar was about asymmetry in the cosmos, a subject that I brought up first. The speaker, the young scientist Shaposhnikov, began his speech by saying that in 1967 Sakharov had established three conditions for the existence of such asymmetry. [paragraph continues]

He wrote them on the blackboard and then led the discussion. I liked that very much.

SPIEGEL: How did your colleagues react, when you appeared in the institute?

Sakharov: When I arrived, the people at the seminar and my colleagues from the theoretical department, where I had always worked -- except for the 18 years of classified work -- received me very warmly. There was applause. There were kisses and tears.

SPIEGEL: Did you expect that?

Sakharov: Yes, I know those people wish me well. I do not know how other colleagues from the academy will receive me. I simply had no contact with them, not even in the past. I am in close contact with just a few persons.

SPIEGEL: Did you get your former position back?

Sakharov: As in the past, I am a leading scientific employee at a physical institute of the Soviet Academy of Sciences. I receive a salary as a scientist and as an active member of the academy.

SPIEGEL: The former central committee spokesman, currently ambassador in Great Britain, Leonid Zamyatin, said some time ago that even in exile you received 900 rubles per month as a member of the academy of sciences. That is five times as much as the average wage of a Soviet citizen.

Yelena Bonner: He has never received such a sum.

Sakharov: I received a smaller amount. Altogether, if one includes my wife's income, pension plus bonus for war-disabled, it really amounts to 900 rubles. However, my circumstances of life are such that I have great expenditures besides for my family.

Bonner: Once the academy maintained that Sakharov had a driver in Gorkiy, a secretary, and a domestic helper. I am that driver. I am the secretary. And I am the domestic helper. For that work the academy of sciences never paid me. What liars!

Sakharov: They still lie today.

SPIEGEL: Do you enjoy the privileges of a member of the Academy? For instance, do you have an official car at your disposal now?

Sakharov: In Moscow, yes. In Gorkiy we had our own car, which was permanently damaged by the KGB.

SPIEGEL: What was the reason for your release?

Sakharov: In my view, the main reason was broad international support by scientists as well as by national and other figures.

SPIEGEL: But you were given that support earlier, too.

Sakharov: Yes, but recently there was a change in tactics. [paragraph continues]

In the past everything concentrated on the point that I should be given an exit permit from the USSR. That tactic proved to be wrong. It was easy to reject it, arguing that I had led secret projects, independent of whether that argument was correct or not. One could always present it.

During the last year, efforts became broader. They concentrated on my return to Moscow; also on my participation in the discussion about control of thermonuclear reaction, which I co-discovered 35 years ago.

SPIEGEL: What do you think of the argument not to let you leave the country because you are an official in charge of secrets?

Sakharov: I find it difficult to judge. I can say neither yes nor no. The last time I participated in secret work was in the first half of 1968. On 11 July I left the town where I lived and returned there 1 year later to get my things. So my classified knowledge is very old. The government has to decide on the matter. I hope it will do so objectively. When I requested an exit permit for my wife, I declared that I gave the authorities the right to decide on the matter.

SPIEGEL: Would you accept the argument that an exit is not possible because of your knowledge?

Sakharov: Right now I am not considering emigration. I have stated that frequently. I would be very happy for a kind of tourist trip to see my children and to have discussions with foreign scientists. I will simply wait and see what the authorities decide to do. I do not at all preclude that they will say Sakharov can go. Some Soviet official is supposed to have said that already.

SPIEGEL: Really?

Sakharov: It is not certain. If it is said officially and seriously I will think it over.

SPIEGEL: Are there still other circumstances that facilitated your return to Moscow?

Sakharov: It is very essential that in our country steps in the direction of some openness are taken, though those steps are halfhearted and contradictory.

SPIEGEL: What does that mean?

Sakharov: The most blatant example is that we see more transparency, but simultaneously those persons, who demanded such transparency in connection with human rights are under arrest, and they are not only under arrest, but also exposed to cruel repression.

SPIEGEL: Of whom are you thinking?

Sakharov: Of many, for instance, Sergey Khodorovich, [name indistinct] Koryagin, who struggled against the abuse of psychiatry. I think of prisoners like Rivkin, Grigoryan, Altunyan, Kostava, Ogrodnikov, Smirnov. At the same time I would like to say that many people suffer because of their desire to emigrate, for instance, Sergey Begun, the Russian Jewsukovi family, and Jews and Germans.

The persons mentioned and others arrested for reasons of conscience are being oppressed more than in the past. They are forced to cease their activities and sentenced to years in prison. Many are beaten. Many are completely desperate. That is what I call a contradictory situation.

SPIEGEL: Did your colleagues from the academy give their support to end the exile?

Sakharov: It has not come to my attention that one of the leading academy people, an academy member, one of the vice presidents, or the president himself defended me.

SPIEGEL: Were there protests when you were sent to Gorkiy in 1980?

Sakharov: Not as far as I know.

SPIEGEL: In the West it is said that you enjoyed the academy's support insofar as your situation did not worsen.

Sakharov: I think that my situation was bad enough. Regarding international contacts, it was barely acceptable. Even when the academy touched on the problem, it was not of great merit. They all lied outwardly.

Bonner: I spent half a year in the West. I had many contacts with scientists. They had been told lies about Sakharov.

Sakharov: They did not play a good game.

SPIEGEL: It is said that the party demanded your expulsion from the academy, but the academy rejected that demand.

Sakharov: I have no information about that. Obviously nobody exerted pressure on the academy in that direction. There is no reason to assume that any body in the academy supported me.

SPIEGEL: Ultimately, General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev allowed a person to come to Moscow who is inconvenient for him, who criticized him and will do so in the future. Why did he take that risk? Did he intend to give a sign that he really wishes liberalization in the Soviet Union?

Sakharov: I have never opposed Gorbachev personally. I never criticized his predecessors personally. In my official statements I referred and refer to existing negative phenomena like violations of human and repression of prisoners for reasons of conscience. I also discussed the problem of alcoholism, and I agree with what Gorbachev is doing about it. I welcome it with my heart. I discussed problems of peace and disarmament. Sometimes my opinion was not in line with the official position.

SPIEGEL: For instance, during the intervention in Afghanistan.

Sakharov: In 1980 I wrote an open letter to the heads of state of the permanent UN Security Council members. De facto my attitude toward Afghanistan has not changed since then.

SPIEGEL: Are you not surprised that the authorities even allowed you to give an interview to U.S. reporters in a national television studio?

Sakharov: Yes, there are changes in our country. I hope that it is not only a political demonstration for temporary goals, but that it reflects real change.

SPIEGEL: Did you expect that?

Sakharov: In general I did not expect that I and my wife would be released. Inwardly we were prepared for a very long, perhaps even for eternal exile. But then things developed with enormous speed.

SPIEGEL: Possibly you served party propaganda. For instance, you are against the U.S. SDI program.

Sakharov: I think that my release actually helps Gorbachev. I hope that it is not just propaganda, but shows real tendencies, which are necessary at the present stage of our social development. Maybe my release is even a test of how changes under Gorbachev in the Soviet Union will come off. I do not consider that a bad thing.

Bonner: Let me add that what Sakharov said in Gorkiy and Moscow was completely honest. On some points his opinion corresponds with the U.S. position, and sometimes with the Soviet one. Let me tell you about one case. Just a moment ago I called the telegraph office to send a telegraph by telephone. When I gave my last name, the operator replied: "A well-known name." I answered: "It is I." The reaction was: "Oh, we are very glad, we have waited so long for your return. All the best wishes to your husband. We wish you health and strength."

Sakharov: You mentioned antimissile weapons. My opinion about that problem neither corresponds with the official Soviet position nor with that of the Reagan administration. In my article entitled "The Danger of Thermonuclear War," written before Reagan announced the SDI program, but published later in the West, I stated -- and it is known to the Soviet leadership -- that such a system, which uses laser and particle beam weapons, is not efficient.

In a military sense I think that one can develop lasers, particle beam weapons, and cosmic cannons with the highest speed missiles, but that all such things can be surmounted by a strong opponent. For every defense system there is a method to surmount it which would require less of an expenditure than developing those defense systems.

On that point I agree with the official Soviet position. In the military field, the economy decides everything. Napoleon said that.

SPIEGEL: Where do you not agree with the official position?

Sakharov: I do not agree with the package Gorbachev tied up in Reykjavik. That means that there will be no progress at the disarmament negotiations, if the United States does not renounce SDI. I do not consider that principle a constructive one. The Soviet argumentation is not convincing.

SPIEGEL: Gorbachev argues: Treaties make no sense. If the Americans develop SDI, because with such a shield a first strike would become feasible.

Sakharov: It is wrong to make the decision on one problem dependent on another. SDI is a matter for the far future.

Its development began at a time of great international mistrust. Actually full confidence will only be possible if we solve a huge complex of problems, for instance, problems of the opening-up of society, regional problems, and problems of disarmament.

In the near future the Soviet Union will not be confronted with the danger that the balance of strength would be altered because SDI is still in a very early stage of development and will be so for many years, maybe decades. The USSR will do the same in that period, and it will be no threat to America.

The real danger existing at present is the ballistic missiles, which, by the way, also reach into space. Thus space is already militarized and that is what we must talk about. If -- as was obviously discussed in Reykjavik -- the missiles are liquidated by both sides, SDI will become useless. It will represent no danger, because there will be no weapons for a first strike anymore.

On the other hand, I think if SDI is not linked with other problems it may be possible to reach compromises calmly, perhaps on research work on a limited scale without expenditures going into the billions.

SPIEGEL: How did you work in Gorkiy? Did your colleagues visit you?

Sakharov: I worked mainly with scientific literature, which I received from abroad and from the Moscow All-Union Institute. As a member of the academy I had the right to obtain such literature. However, I suffered from the permanent lack of personal scientific give and take.

Certainly that had a negative effect on my scientific work. Periodically my colleagues from the physical institute visited me, but one can count them on one's fingers. Maybe 15. Every visit was useful and interesting for me. but they could not replace continuous scientific relations.

SPIEGEL: Was it risky for your colleagues to visit you?

Sakharov: No, they had permission. They were sent on an official trip. That happened frequently, if it was good for foreign policy as a demonstration.

SPIEGEL: Did you have contacts with the people of Gorkiy?

Sakharov: They were completely cut off by the KGB.

SPIEGEL: How did you react to the video tapes, showing you among others during doctor's visits and obviously serving as proof that you were still alive?

Sakharov: I heard that such tapes existed when my wife returned from abroad last June. The tapes are horrible. They were distorted. My statements were taken out of context and put in such a way that the sense was contrary.

SPIEGEL: Did you later have the opportunity to call the doctors involved to account?

Sakharov: The last time I saw the doctors in the Semashko Clinic was early in March, when I wanted dental treatment. [paragraph continues]

The medical superintendent showed me an article from the British newspaper THE OBSERVER which had published my letter to the president of the academy about my force feeding. The article showed the Soviet physicians in a very unfavorable light. The doctor tried to get some kind of excuse from me, a confession, that I was wrong.

Then in July they gave me another date for a doctor's visit to examine my heart. I had not asked for it. I sent a telegram, in which I clearly rejected treatment by such doctors. After that I received a cable from a female cardiologist in the language of the KGB: "I feel very sorry for you, Academy member."

SPIEGEL: Were you ready to go on a hunger strike again after dissident Marchenko's death to achieve your release?

Sakharov: I was deeply moved by the death of Anatoliy Marchenko. He was my great friend, a surprisingly steadfast, courageous man with solid principles. Some 20 years ago he wrote the first book about detention camps after Stalin. The subsequent tortures he endured for more than 20 years were really a slow execution. I would never go on a hunger strike in such a case, just to get my exit permit. I have never done it to enforce personal aims.

SPIEGEL: How do you assess the current situation of civil rights fighters in the Soviet Union? Do you share the opinion that the dissident movement is dead?

Sakharov: The human rights movement was formed 20 years ago on a purely moral basis and played a great role in international human rights principles. It will exist as long as there are people who are interested in human rights, even if they are only ten, or just one. It will be there in one form or another as long as human rights are violated. I know very little about other dissident groups. Perhaps I do not like everything I know about.

SPIEGEL: What does that mean?

Sakharov: I do not want to give examples. But I would like to say that I do not at all like being considered the head of the dissident movement. I always speak for myself personally. I do not express the opinions of groups.

SPIEGEL: You were criticized because you only support dissidents from the intelligentsia, not simple people, who, for instance, have established an independent labor union in their enterprises.

Sakharov: I do not make a distinction between simple and not simple people. By the way, Marchenko was a worker. As far as the illegal labor unions are concerned I did not like everything, for instance, about how it was presented. It was exaggerated. There were no similarities to the Polish labor union Solidarity.

SPIEGEL: In what way will you support human rights now?

Sakharov: I consider it my duty to deal with certain social problems, above all the problem of amnesty for prisoners for reasons of conscience, not only in the USSR, but all over the whole world. I think the release of prisoners for reasons of conscience in the Soviet Union is a kind of litmus test, whether or not the process of democratization is really taking place. For the time being, as I said before, the situation of very many people is very tragic.

SPIEGEL: Are you optimistic about democratization as envisaged by Gorbachev?

Sakharov: I am very glad about such phenomena as more tranparency. I think that it is greater in comparison to the past, but not yet sufficient. It must be further deepened. People must get used to greater openness. The authorities must learn what it is all about. However, I repeat that the people who worked for openness must be freed. They are broken now. The present period means a change for the worse and not for the better for them.

SPIEGEL: So you are more pessimistic?

Sakharov: No, I do not say that I am a pessimist. I am neither this nor that. I try to abstain from an assessment, I try not to speak about any progress, but about what is to be done. In this connection the determination of the West is important, and the opening up of society is indispensible.

That does not just apply to releasing prisoners of conscience. It generally applies to implementation of all civil rights, freedom of opinion and information, and freedom of movement -- not just on the occasion of family reunions. Any reason the citizen chooses to emigrate should be accepted as his right. And if he does not like it abroad, he should be able to return without problems.

SPIEGEL: That would not be a communist society anymore.

Sakharov: I do not know what name one should use. I would like a society offering the best to the people. Such a society does not fear open borders. But all other rights must be implemented as well.

SPIEGEL: That seems unrealistic for the Soviet Union. Not even General Secretary Gorbachev could put that into practice, even if he wanted to.

Sakharov: I cannot judge Gorbachev's future plans. I do not know the comparative strength among the highest leaders or the mechanism of decision making. However, I think that liberalization, democratization, and other reforms are vital for a society undergoing a scientific-technological revolution.

SPIEGEL: Perhaps Gorbachev intends to advance the process.

Sakharov: It is hard to say how things will develop further. The prognosis, what will be or not be, is not important. One must only work with determination. I am of the opinion that the West is strongly interested in it, because one can live more securely with an open neighbor.

SPIEGEL: Prior to your exile, you declared yourself against detente before liberalization in the Soviet Union. Are you still of that opinion?

Sakharov: I never declared myself against detente. I urged linking steps toward strengthening confidence and security in the world -- what we normally call detente -- with the consistent and fundamental position of the West concerning defense of human rights in the USSR and the opening-up of your society. My position toward detente has never been negative, but positive.

SPIEGEL: With what will you occupy yourself scientifically in the future?

Sakharov: From the moment I left classified work, and even before, I was mainly interested in the physics of elementary particles and the early history of the origins of the universe. I read scientific literature dealing with that problem in particular. Moreover, I plan to participate in a discussion about problems of controlling thermonuclear reaction.

SPIEGEL: Will you assist in developing defense methods against SDI?

Sakharov: No, I talked about basic research. If you ask me about projects in applied sciences, I do not plan to occupy myself with problems of military consequence.

SPIEGEL: How did you as a nuclear-energy expert react to the Chernobyl catastrophe?

Sakharov: It was a horrible disaster. No nuclear energy expert anticipated such a cruel catastrophe. A huge territory was irradiated with massive doses. Hundreds of thousands of people suffered. I wrote about the biological consequences in 1956 in connection with nuclear-weapons tests. Ecologically we were completely unprepared to face the problem.

SPIEGEL: Do you advocate withdrawal from nuclear energy?

Sakharov: I continue to think that mankind cannot manage without nuclear energy -- for economic, social, and other reasons, including environmental protection reasons. Coal power stations and other power stations are ecologically harmful.

SPIEGEL: But not as dangerous as a nuclear power plant.

Sakharov: Taking all coal power plants together they certainly cause more damage than Chernobyl and will do damage to people in the future.

SPIEGEL: What is your alternative?

Sakharov: We must build 100-percent-safe nuclear power plants, and I intend to participate in that discussion.

SPIEGEL: What do you suggest?

Sakharov: I have some ideas, but it is too early to speak about them.

SPIEGEL: Mr Sakharov, Mrs Bonner, thank you for this interview.

BRIEFS

CPSU CONSTRUCTION PAPER -- The first edition of STROITELNAYA GAZETA, which becomes a daily from now on and which is a CPSU Central Committee paper, was published today. Its history dates back to 1924. The editorial office intends to enhance reporting on party management of construction. The vanguard role of communists in resolving social and economic tasks will be reflected in a more pronounced way. The experience of front-ranking workers, innovators, and able organizers is to be widely displayed. The editorial office presented in the first publication new columns and subject sections. [Text] [Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0304 GMT 1 Jan 87 LD]

MINISTRIES TO SET UP FOREIGN TRADE ORGANIZATIONS

LD062354 Moscow TASS in English 2142 GMT 6 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 6 TASS -- Twenty one Soviet branch ministries and departments and more than 70 production amalgamations and enterprises, which received a right of direct access to foreign markets from the beginning of this year, will set up respectively cost-accounting foreign trade associations and foreign trade firms. The latter will engage in exporting and importing a range of goods and services set for them.

The councils of ministers of constituent republics are also allowed to set up cost-accounting foreign trade associations which will represent on the foreign market the interests of republican enterprises and organizations.

Thus, more than 100 new foreign trade organizations will join in foreign economic activities.

Changes in the system of foreign economic relations of the Soviet Union are part of a general drive to modernise the country's economic mechanism. The drive is aimed at creating conditions for rapid acceleration of the process of intensifying production on the basis of scientific and technological progress. The transfer of production amalgamations and enterprises to cost-accounting, repayment and self-financing, undertaken as part of a modernisation drive, envisages the granting of wider economic independence to them.

One of the measures directed at making production amalgamations and enterprises interested in increasing the quality of output and making it comparable with the best world standards is represented by the decision to allow them to retain a part of their foreign currency earnings from the export of their output. They will use the money to purchase imported equipment needed for the reconstruction and modernisation of their production.

The new foreign trade agencies of soviet branch ministries, departments and enterprises will have a great impact on production. Their task is to develop exports, improve their structure and broaden the nomenclature by increasing exports of goods with a high degree of processing, by raising the quality and competitiveness of export goods and by organising the servicing of products sold.

They will take an active part in developing new forms of foreign economic activities, including direct ties with the partners from other socialist countries, participation in joint enterprises and international associations, specialisation and co-production.

The foreign trade associations and firms come under control of branch ministries, departments and enterprises which create them. The USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade and the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations will exercise a general control over how the state interests of the Soviet Union are upheld by them on the foreign market.

'TRUD-90' SIBERIAN LABOR PROGRAM DESCRIBED

LD051357 Moscow TASS in English 1122 GMT 5 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 5 TASS -- The regional comprehensive programme "Trud-90" ("Labour-90") will help replenish the work force in Siberia by the end of the current Five-Year-Plan period (1986-1990).

Siberia, one of the country's most dynamically developing regions, experiences work force shortage almost everywhere. Thus the Krasnoyarsk region (eastern Siberia) with a population of 3.5 million will need additionally over 500,000 workers in the current five-year-plan period.

Roza Ryazanova, deputy chairman of the Krasnoyarsk Soviet of People's Deputies Executive Council, told newsmen that graduates of secondary schools, vocational schools and colleges were regarded, according to the programme, as the main work force reserve. Some 320,000 people of this category will join social production in the next five years.

Another solution to the problem lies in the intensification of production on the basis of scientific and technological progress and the reduction of the share of nonproductive manual labour in industry, which could release, according to the calculations, some 185,000 people.

"This by no means amounts to firing the workers, for the personnel are informed in advance, sometimes even several years before the reductions are to take place", Ryazanova said. "The management of an enterprise together with the trade union organisation offer every worker several new jobs and trades, which are taught free".

"It happens though that a worker soon gives in his notice at a new place more often than not as a result of the management's or local authorities' inability to quickly provide him with an apartment, kindergarten for kids or adequate leisure facilities. The "Trud-90" programme envisages high rates of social development in the Krasnoyarsk region, including fifty percent cut in time needed for the construction of schools, kindergartens and other social and every-day life facilities. It is also planned to build some 200,000 flats".

SHIPPING DELAYS ON TYUMEN RAILWAYS CRITICIZED

LD052223 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 5 Jan 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Summary] "A difficult situation has come about in the northern sections of the railways in Tyumen Oblast in regard to freight train movement." Over video of tanker and flat cars standing in snowy landscape and marshalling yards, it is reported that the winter has yielded little snow but has been very cold, with 45 and even 50 degrees of frost in the Arctic Circle. In some places it has been necessary to halt the work of people and cranes, but this is not considered to be the main reason for the hold-up on the railway. "In the area of Surgut and Novyy Urengoy, dozens of trains have today been cast onto sidings, with over 1,500 wagons. They should mostly go along the Madym branch for the builders, but there is no active passage through there, for there are neither high-quality lines nor vigorous railway transport enterprises.

"There is quite simply nowhere to put the wagons arriving there today for unloading." Video shows lines of wagons in sidings, and one unloading facility unloading bulk cargo onto a truck, and containers.

Such holdups are unfortunately a common occurrence at the Tyumen station freight yard, where reconstruction has been delayed for many years: There is a shortage of warehousing and little mechanization, and the enterprises for which the freight is destined are failing the railway men by organizing collection poorly. There are so many wagons in the yard that it would take nearly a week of above-plan work to clear them. Holdups on the Tyumen railways have become less frequent in recent years, but there is still a great deal to be done.

REDUCTION IN SHORTAGE OF CONSUMER GOODS EXAMINED

PM071021 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Jan 87 Morning Edition p 2

[First article under new rubric "Commercial Review" by V. Tolstov: "Goods and Scarcity"]

[Text] We wish to devote the first review to an analysis of the situation taking shape on the consumer-goods market. It uses data supplied to the editors by the All-Union Scientific Research Institute for Study of the Public Demand for Consumer Goods and the Trade Situation and by the RSFSR Central Statistical Administration Workers, Employees, and Kolkhoz Members Budgetary Statistics Department. Of course, the present situation on the goods market has not taken shape over just 1 year, and so we will use the statistics of the past few years in the review.

The population's income continued to grow in 1985 and 1986. At the same time, trade was able to offer customers more cultural and consumer goods and household and cotton fabrics, which were previously in very short supply. I could cite a whole series of products the demand for which was satisfied practically in full in 1986, although a year previously they had been scarce. In 1985, for example, people had stood in line for electric samovars, electric coffee makers, enamelware, and chinaware -- now they are constantly on sale. Trade in construction materials has expanded considerably. It is interesting that, whereas the average family spending on consumer goods has recently increased 7 percent, spending on construction materials has leaped 28 percent. This also indicates that the market for these goods has been better supplied.

Another curious feature attesting that demand is being better met than before: According to statistical observations, the average family's spending on purchasing industrial goods in person-to-person transactions has dropped appreciably. Everyone is well aware that is it most frequently the case that things are acquired in this way at elevated prices from speculators under conditions of scarcity. There has now been a big reduction in opportunities available to the devotees of underground commercial deals.

But there has recently been a shortage of many light industrial goods, and, by all accounts, a shortage of woolen, silk, and linen fabrics, knitted goods, and footwear will be felt in the new year. The growth in per-capita consumption of these goods is either proceeding extremely slowly or remains virtually at the 1980 level. As a result, there is a high demand for all articles of clothing and footwear, which trade cannot meet in full.

The situation on the foodstuffs market is also not taking shape in the best manner. The gap between supply and demand as regards meat, meat products, dairy products, vegetables, and fruits increased last year. But, on the other hand, statistics have simultaneously noted growth in the consumption of these nutritionally most valuable products. They have also, incidentally, noted the fact that the statistically average family's spending on foodstuffs has increased. These data were obtained by a poll of consumers and so are quite objective. It may be assumed that customers have begun acquiring high-quality products more frequently from kolkhoz markets and through consumer cooperatives.

Specialists link the fact that the average family has begun to feed itself better to the drop in alcohol consumption: The family budget is gradually being freed from the burden of expenditure on drunkenness. According to a preliminary assessment, the level of consumption of alcoholic beverages in 1986 fell 35 percent compared with 1984.

Interruptions in the trade in coffee and tea arose in the second half of last year. As regards coffee, as our newspaper has already reported, measures have been taken to increase purchases. In 1987 this commodity will go on sale in volumes somewhat above the 1985 level, when no coffee shortage arose. But as regards solving the tea problem, specialists link this, above all, with an improvement in its quality.

This, to put it briefly, is the situation on the consumer goods market at the beginning of 1987. It cannot be considered a good situation. The customers' unsatisfied demand is estimated at approximately R21-25 billion. Production of clothes, footwear, fabrics, foodstuffs, and household and other goods must be increased by this amount. This is undoubtedly a very complex task, and I would like IZVESTIYA readers to understand that its resolution now depends on the active, creative work of each of us. The opportunities for such work have been created now that the new economic mechanism is being brought into play and reforms are being implemented.

KRASNOVODSK TETS GENERATING SET BEGINS OPERATION

LD061349 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 5 Jan 87

[Excerpts] The 12th generating set at the Krasnovodsk TETS in Turkmenistan went into operation 6 months ahead of schedule. Correspondent Said Yazmamedov reports:

[Yazmamedov] The need to expand the capacity of the heat and power plant in one of the republic's industrial centers is connected with the further development here of industries that consume a great deal of power, with the growth in the extraction and refining of oil, with the considerable growth in the production of ores and building materials, and with the increased output of chemicals. The main factors responsible for speeding up the construction of the 210,000-kilowatt generating set have been, perhaps, the workers competition to complete it and the transfer of all working collectives to a single job contract system. [passage omitted]

With the start-up of the latest generating set, the total capacity of the Krasnovodsk TETS reached 602,000 kilowatts [figure as heard]. By the end of the 5-year plan, the station will reach the planned level of power production: 2.5 billion kilowatt-hours per annum. The experience in organizing the workers campaign gained by the power industry workers will be of great assistance in the construction of the second and more powerful stage of the TETS.

NEWS CONFERENCE HELD ON COMMERCIAL USE OF SPACE

LD062203 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 6 Jan 87

[News conference given by Gennadiy Ivanovich Gerasimov, chief of the Information Department of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs; Aleksandr Ivanovich Dunayev, chief of the Main Administration for the Creation and Utilization of Space Technology; Valeriy Vasiliyevich Ignatov, general director of the All-Union Litsenzingtorg Association; with questions from unidentified foreign and domestic correspondents; held in Moscow on 6 January -- recorded]

[Text] [Gerasimov] The development of scientific and technical progress, the great, oustanding achievements in the mastery of space are opening to mankind wide prospects for the utilization of space for peaceful purposes. And we consider that the development of wide-scale peaceful cooperation in this area, with the participation of all states, is the only rational alternative to plans to spread the arms race to space. It was proceeding from this position that we raised for examination by the United Nations a step-by-step program of developing international cooperation in utilizing space for peaceful purposes, and set out in the message from the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers to the UN secretary general on 10 June 1986.

It is based on the idea of convening not later than 1990 an international conference or a special session of the UN General Assembly with the aim of studying the problem of space in all its entirety, and the institution of a worldwide space organization. The Soviet Union considers it illogical to disperse and duplicate the efforts of states in the mastery of space. Broad prospects for uniting the efforts of states for the sake of building a star peace are opened up by the proposal raised by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev during his friendly visit to India in November 1986 -- the proposal to set up a center for joint research and development of samples of space hardware on request from developing countries.

We are countering the irrationalism of Star Wars and the senseless waste of money and the achievements of science and technology on the threat of destroying life on earth with the rationalism of practical utilization of space technology in the interests of the whole of mankind.

The replies by Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov to questions from a TASS correspondent, which have just been published, provide specific details of the readiness stated by us in the aforementioned message from the chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers to carry out the launch of peaceful space devices of other countries and international organizations by Soviet carrier rockets on mutually accpetable conditions.

Taking part in the news conference is Aleksandr Ivanovich Dunayev, chief of the Main Administration for the Creation and Utilization of Space Technology.

[Dunayev] Space today is not only an area of scientific research, but it is also, if you like, a new area of activity of mankind without which the progress of science, technology, and the national economy is impossible today. With the aid of space means, there is provision of telephone and telegraphic communications, and the transmission and exchange of television programs; there is an intensive and all-embracing observation of the weather; and constant long-distance exploration of the earth is being carried out in the interests of geology, agriculture, fishing, and shipping.

The Soviet Union, being one of the leading space powers, possesses considerable experience in developing, producing, and utilizing space technology in all the directions named. We are making active use in various communications systems of satellites providing television broadcasting. For over 15 years now Soviet Meteor satellites have been providing regular photographs of the earth's surface and the cloud layer in the interests of science and forecasting the weather over wide areas. In one turn we take information from the territory of about 20 percent of the area of the globe.

On the Salyut orbiting stations, and now on the Mir complex, there have been, and will be conducted, intensive research in various spheres of medicine, geology, and the study of materials and biotechnology, the results of which already now, not to mention in the future, can be used for the good of mankind. For example, production installations are providing the possibility of obtaining experimental batches of several dozen types of semiconductor materials with physical properties unattainable by the methods of traditional earth technology. A recently created production installation like this, tested in full-scale conditions on a Cosmos automatic apparatus, allows us to obtain in conditions of microgravitation specially pure active substances such as insulin.

The Soviet Union has, over many years, been successfully cooperating with other countries in the cause of space research and utilization. In the framework of the Intercosmos program and according to bilateral agreements, more than 30 satellites have been launched. Joint manned flights with the participation of cosmonauts from Bulgaria, Hungary, Vietnam, the German Democratic Republic, Mongolia, Czechoslovakia, Cuba, Romania, Poland, France, and India have been conducted. A major international project, Vega, involving the study of Halley's Comet and Venus, with the help of Soviet interplanetary stations, by experts of the Soviet Union, Austria, Bulgaria, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, Poland, the United States, France, the Federal Republic of Germany and Czechoslovakia, has been completed.

The international satellite system for the rescue of vessels and aircraft which have suffered accidents has been working successfully and has saved the lives of more than 650 people. It is being envisaged to launch in 1987 an Indian satellite carried by a Soviet satellite for the long-distance probing of earth. The potential of international cooperation on the basis of commercial contracting is unlimited, and the USSR Glavkosmos space panel is prepared for wide-scale cooperation with foreign firms, and governmental and international organizations on a reciprocal basis, including a commercial basis.

The list of the services which we offer is: First of all, the use of Soviet rockets to carry foreign satellites; the lease of Soviet Gorizont communications satellites at geostationary orbits; conducting the survey of the territory of individual countries; the use of Soviet technological apparati for performance of work; the lease of Soviet space vessels for the installation of consumers' apparata used in production or processing kmaterials in the conditions of space.

It needs to be mentioned that the Soviet carrier rockets which are being offered for launches have a good performance record. Our offer to spacelift foreign space objects with our carrier rockets is motivated by the desire to promote the cause of space exploration and to use the Soviet rocket and space technology efficiently to reach that end. Such proposals have been made to all countries, international organizations, and firms.

The main obstacle on the path of implementation of profitable projects, however, is the prohibition imposed by the U.S. Administration on the import to the USSR for subsequent spacelift of space objects containing U.S. components. [paragraph continues]

That is the so-called embargo on the export of technology, which is discriminatory not so much against the Soviet Union as against the organizations and countries in dire need of space facilities for the creation and use of regional and national systems of telephone and telegraphic communications, as well as television. Our government announced its position on this issue today, particularly its readiness to provide guarantees of safety for both satellites en route to the cosmodrome and all types of information in the course of prestart checks. The only thing which would need to be verified in the satellite owner's presence is its serviceability shortly before the launch, in order to exclude unnecessary commercial losses by either side; we suggest specifying this in the contracts which would be concluded. As shown in practice, negotiations which have been conducted with foreign and international organizations on the launching of foreign satellites by Soviet carrier rockets can be fruitful. We can reach practical agreements on all technical, financial, and organizational issues. Additionally, the launch itself is guaranteed by the good record of our carrier rocket launches.

On our international projects for this 5-year plan: studies of Phobos, the satellite of Mars, with receiving photo and video pictures of its surface. The launch is scheduled for 1988. Research into solar activity and specifications of near space -- the so-called Aktivnyy, Apeks and Interbol projects; seven countries will participate. Astrophysical research into sources of X-radiation with the help of Gamma objects. The Rentgen complex which is to be launched on a module for the 'Mir' orbital station. Next section: continuation of the joint work with France, Bulgaria, and Syria at the Mir orbital station -- the flight of a Syrian cosmonaut in 1987, the flight of a Bulgarian cosmonaut in 1988, and a lengthy flight -- up to 30 days -- of a French cosmonaut, as well as wide-scale use of foreign apparata at the Mir station and modules for conducting scientific and medical research and studying natural resources of earth.

[Gerasimov] Taking part in the news conference is Valeriy Vasiliyevich Ignatov, general director of the All-Union Litsenzintorg [foreign trade licensing] Association.

[Ignatov] A question from Radio GDR: Rumor has it that many countries have already displayed interest in utilizing Soviet space technology. Indeed, we are carrying on talks with a number of countries, both with state organizations and with private firms. Apart from this, we have already been through the first stages of negotiations with international organizations such as Intellsat, Inmarsat, and others.

[Question in English with Russian translation] U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT: Could you not give us some specific data which would indicate the reliability of your rockets?

[Ignatov] Well, I can quote you statistics on Proton. Of the 102 launches, there were seven failures -- that's the level of reliability, while for Soyuz the statistics are even better.

[Question] NOVOSTI PRESS AGENCY: What is the likely structure of the international center?

[Ignatov] Obviously, the center must be able to create satellites for developing countries, and these first and foremost will probably be remote exploration satellites which will provide an immediate economic return. Second, obviously the center must have launching pads. Third, such a center must be able to control these satellites. Therefore the question arises of control-tracking stations. As well as this, in the same center it is possible to study questions also of training cosmonauts of developing countries.

[Question in Russian] GDR news agency. Can we expect in the near future the launch of a new crew to the Mir station?

[Ignatov] This year we shall be continuing our expeditions to the Mir station. We are preparing the launching of an astrophysical module to the Mir station. We are now carrying out intensive, accelerated preparation for manned flights. As these flights are ready, they will be announced in good time before the launch, and the launch date will be reported as soon as the work is in the home straight.

EQUIPMENT BEING PREPARED FOR 'PHOBOS' PROJECT

LD070355 Moscow TASS in English 2333 GMT 6 Jan 87

[Text] Moscow January 6 TASS -- The international space project, "Phobos", involving scientists from 12 European countries and the European Space Agency will help verify a new hypothesis on the origin of the satellites of Mars.

Equipment is being currently prepared at the Space Research Institute of the USSR Academy of Sciences for the launching of two spacecraft to Mars and its two satellites, Phobos and Daimos, in the summer of 1988, reported the magazine "ZNANIYE -- SILA" (KNOWLEDGE IS POWER).

The programme of the expedition, to last about a year and a half, includes the landing of two probes with the aim of scanning Phobos with a radio beam to study the structure of its soil at a relatively great depth. A television system will transmit numerous photographs back to earth.

Scientists assume that a relatively low density of matter on Phobos, discovered in the past, is explained by the fact that the satellite consists of gas hydrates, solid molecular compositions of gas and water. Laser scanning of the surface of Phobos by a scientific station flying at a height of only 50-100 metres will help test suppositions as to what the satellite consists of.

It is assumed that the energy of a laser beam concentrated on an area the size of a coin will initiate an explosion of gas hydrates similar to the explosions observed on the surface of the nucleus of Halley's Comet.

The magazine notes that in case a station equippped with a laser passes over Phobos at the planned height of 50-100 metres, the explosion of gas hydrates, should the hypothesis prove correct, may destroy the space station.

Nevertheless, this hypothesis is the only one now which can explain the riddles of the motions of Phobos and Deimos.